SATURDAY
August 23, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

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UGC focuses on Indian knowledge systems

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Building a home amid hostility

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Navi Mumbai replaces Bengaluru as a venue

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NEARBY

HC: Do not harass individual bike taxi owners

BENGALURU
The High Court orally clarified to State Advocate-General that the court, on August 20, had only asked the A-G to instruct authorities not to take any precipitative action against individual bike taxi owners.
» PAGE 3

CM blames police for stadium stampede

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday said police inaction was largely responsible for the stampede near M. Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru on June 4 that claimed 11 lives. » PAGE 10

PROPERTYPLUS » PAGE 9

Former Sri Lankan President Ranil held for 'misusing' funds

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Ranil Wickremesinghe in a prison bus in Colombo on Friday. AFP

Sri Lanka's former President and six-time Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was on Friday arrested on charges of misusing state funds during his Presidency. He was remanded in custody by the Colombo Magistrate Court until August 26, when the next hearing is due.

A senior official told *The Hindu* that Mr. Wickremesinghe was taken into custody after the Sri Lanka Police's Criminal Investigation Department questioned him about his visit to a British university in September 2023 when he was head of state, to attend a ceremony where his wife, a senior academic, was honoured.

His party has denied any misuse of state funds in connection with the visit. The former President, while returning from the G-77 summit in Cuba, had travelled to the U.S. to address the United Nations General Assembly in New York, and later stopped over in the U.K., where he also held diplomatic meetings, his office earlier said.

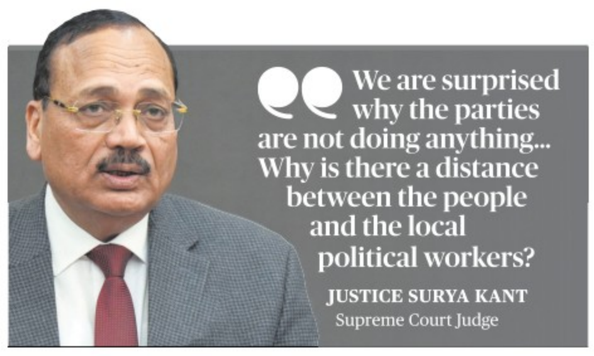
This marks the first instance of an ex-President being arrested and comes amid the government's efforts to probe corruption.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 14

Help EC bring back Bihar voters left out of rolls: SC to parties

The court says voters can file claims and objections online and use Aadhaar or any of 11 documents listed by the EC as proof of identity

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI



The Supreme Court on Friday directed political parties contesting the Bihar Assembly election to help the Election Commission (EC) bring back voters left out of the draft electoral roll published as part of the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) exercise.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi directed State party chiefs to instruct their booth level agents to assist excluded voters file their claims and objections for inclusion in the rolls.

The court order conveyed a sense of urgency, with barely over a week left before the claims-and-objections stage of the SIR ends on September 1.

The court clarified that voters can file their claims and objections online in a bid to save time. Excluded voters can either attach their Aadhaar card, as permitted by the SC, or any of the 11 indicative documents listed by the EC, as proof of identity and residence, with their claims.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing the RJD, urged the court to extend the deadline beyond September 1. Justice Kant asked the EC to "examine" this aspect if there was an "overwhelming response" from excluded voters.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 14

ED detains Cong. MLA K.C. Veerendra in betting app case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has reportedly detained Chitradurga Congress MLA K.C. Veerendra in Sikkim after raiding over 30 locations linked to him and his associates in "a case related to illegal online and offline betting".

The raids have reportedly uncovered that Mr. Veerendra has been running several online betting sites, and his brother has been running three firms in Dubai related to call centre services and gaming business, the ED said.

The raids come days after Parliament passed the Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025.

In a statement issued on Friday, the ED said the accused is running several online betting sites in the name of King567, Raja567, Puppy's003, Rathna Gaming among others. ED raided five casinos in Goa, namely, Puppy's Casino Gold, Ocean Rivers Casino, Puppy's Casino Pride, Ocean 7 Casino, Big Daddy Casino, all run by Mr. Veerendra and his associates. Mr. Veerendra is also known as "Puppy".

Mr. Veerendra contested on a Congress ticket in 2023 and won as an MLA from Chitradurga.

"K. C. Thippeswamy, the accused's brother, is operating three business entities from Dubai – Diamond Softech, TRS Technologies, Prime9Technologies – and these entities are related to the call centre services and gaming business of K.C. Veerendra," ED said in a statement.

The ED also raided Anil Gowda, brother of Congress leader Kusuma H., from R.R. Nagar, Bengaluru, in connection with the case.

SC modifies earlier order, allows release of stray dogs

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday modified its earlier *suo motu* directive requiring civic authorities in Delhi and four adjoining districts to capture all stray dogs and confine them in shelters within six to eight weeks.

Terming its August 11, order "too harsh", the court directed that the animals be released into the localities from which they were captured, after undergoing sterilisation, deworming, and immunisation.

A three-judge Bench comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta, and N.V. Anjaria noted that the earlier mandate was intended to protect citizens from attacks by "aggressive and rabid" canines.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 14

Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate Mysuru Dasara

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Booker Prize-2025 winner Banu Mushtaq will inaugurate the Dasara festivities atop Chamundi Hill in Mysuru on September 22, announced Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Speaking in Bengaluru on Friday, he said that an invitation to the writer will be extended by the Mysuru district administration soon. Ms. Musthtaq has involved herself in farmers' struggles, several progressive movements and fought for the cause of Kannada, said the Chief Minister. The writer, who is also a lawyer, won the Booker for her translated short story collection "Heart Lamp."

Ms. Mushtaq, who is currently on a visit to Bahrain, received information about the government's decision through friends. "I am happy on being invited to inaugurate the festival," she said over phone.

The Chief Minister also said that Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had given green signal for holding airshow during Dasara festivities, and a letter had been written to Mr. Singh, inviting him to witness the annual event, which would be held for 11 days this year.

In Remembrance

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*As on June 30, 2025

American drought to American dream: can Fritz, Shelton upend recent history?

No male player from the United States has won a Major singles title since 2003 — a shocking dry spell for the most successful tennis nation. But with their home Grand Slam starting on Sunday, America's top-ranked men will be desperate to build on the progress they have made and end more than two decades of misery

N. Sudarshan

Americans are tennis aristocrats. They have won a record 32 Davis Cups and players representing the United States have collected a world-leading 147 men's singles Grand Slam titles. Bill Tilden, Don Budge, Jack Kramer, Arthur Ashe, Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe, Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras bagged 59 Majors among them, formed era-defining rivalries, and had a transformational impact on a sport they loved dearly and played with passion.

In the past two decades, however, the lords have seen a dramatic shrinking of their once extravagant riches. No American man has won a Grand Slam singles championship since Andy Roddick at the 2003 US Open. And until Taylor Fritz made it to the title round in New York last year, the US had endured more than 15 years' misery, having not had a male player in the summit clash since Roddick at 2009 Wimbledon.

On a swing and a prayer

But before every Major, especially the one at Flushing Meadows, there is a fervent prayer for this drought to end and for the US' glorious past not to be reduced to merely a quaint historical enquiry. Ahead of Sunday, when the latest edition of the season's last Slam, the US Open, gets underway, there is certain to be another desperate invocation of the holy spirits to shower some grace and advance their case.

Prima facie, the Americans are closer than ever. The US has four members in the top-20 – Fritz at No. 4, lefty Ben Shelton, who won the Toronto Masters this month, at No. 6, Tommy Paul at No. 14 and Frances Tiafoe at No. 17. Fritz's run to the US Open final in 2024 and his semifinal finish at Wimbledon this July are encouraging signs. Tennis may still be a niche sport in the States, but it hasn't fallen out of favour, as seen from the fact that the US has as many as 13 players in the top-100, joint-highest with France.

But a combination of factors, like the dominance of the Big Three of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic in winning 66 of 81 Majors from Wimbledon 2003 to US Open 2023, and the meteoric rise of Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner, who have swept the last seven Slams and ensured a wrinkle-free transition into the next era, appear to have left Fritz, Shelton, et al. with little wriggle room to work with.

It may also be that America's long-time reliance on the Kramer-inspired 'Big Game' of the 1940s and 50s – a cannonball serve followed by a crushing putaway – has not helped the blossoming of more complete styles of play. The US produced fleet-footed geniuses who mastered the faster surfaces, but not clay, which is said to inculcate all-court skills like patience, discipline and point construction. There are of course glorious exceptions in seven-time French Open champion Chris Evert – arguably the best woman on clay ever – who grew up on the green clay courts in Florida, quite a rarity in today's world. Among men, two-time Roland-Garros winner Jim Courier and Agassi, who claimed all four Majors, are vivid examples.

But the average American tennis player is still bred on medium to fast acrylic, which is the surface for the four ATP Masters 1000s (Indian Wells, Miami, Canada and Cincinnati) and the one Slam North America hosts. Fritz, Shelton, Paul and Tiafoe have reached six Major semifinals and one final. None of those have come on the Parisian red dirt.

While it is true that three of the four Slams are still played on fairly quick courts, modern-day tennis, driven by superior racquet technology, use of heavier balls and a baseline-dominant technique, is moving towards a certain homogenisation. Though there are bespoke skills that still bring rewards, the differentiation between surfaces isn't as stark as it used to be.

An almighty jostle

Federer and Nadal had their preferences, and so do Djokovic, Alcaraz and Sinner. But even on their less-favoured courts – clay for Federer, grass for Nadal – there were no glaring weaknesses. Djokovic is arguably the most complete player in history, and early signs are that Alcaraz and Sinner will join him. All of this has meant that the tennis of the last two decades has been an almighty jostle, with no customised windows of opportunity for specialists to strike gold.

But former World No. 1 and eight-time Major winner Agassi opined that things would turn and equated the current state of American men's tennis to the late 1980s when McEnroe and Connors were on the wane and the nation was looking for new heroes.

"I think you need each other to succeed," Agassi said last December at an event in Bengaluru. "I was the first one to turn pro and I made [Michael] Chang, Pete and Courier believe they could do it. Chang was the first one to win [French Open 1989], and he made Pete and Courier believe that they could.

"And Courier said, 'Well, I can be No. 1 in the world'. I'm saying, 'Wait a second, what the hell about me?' So we all helped each other in a lot of ways. And I think these Americans now are starting to prove [that] to the other Americans."

Fritz & Co. can also draw inspiration from the women. In the period since Roddick's only Major triumph, American ladies have won 25 Slams. While 20 of these are Venus and Serena Williams', the successes of Sloane Stephens (2017 US Open), Sofia Kenin (2020 Australian Open), Coco Gauff (2023 US Open and 2025 French Open) and Madison Keys (2025 Australian Open) show the emergence of a new wave of champions.

Four women are in the latest WTA top-10 – Gauff (No. 3), Jessica Pegula (4), Keys (6) and Amanda Anisimova (9). Pegula and Anisimova could have added to the Major tally if not for their defeats to Aryna Sabalenka (2024 US Open) and Iga Swiatek (2025 Wimbledon).

Hope can also be had from the fact that the field below Alcaraz and Sinner looks airy. The celestial duo may have established a near stranglehold at the top and ensured that the European supremacy of men's tennis doesn't miss a beat, but the rest of the Tour is chaotic and messy. The legendary Djokovic, 38, appears to be fading; No. 3 Alexander Zverev has flattered to deceive despite reaching three Slam finals while Daniil Medvedev, the 2021 US Open winner, and Casper Ruud, three-time Major finalist, seem to have stagnated.

The next step

"I think it's only a matter of time before someone takes the next step," American Sebastian Korda, a former World No. 15 who is on a comeback trail from injury, told *The Hindu*.

"Taylor making the final last year was something that hadn't happened for long. That's already huge progress. Ben [Shelton] lost to the two [eventual] champions both at Roland-Garros and Wimbledon. So they're obviously both extremely close, making quarters and semis of Slams pretty consistently. So, I think, it's gonna be a great couple weeks for the Americans."

> I think you need each other to succeed. I was the first one to turn pro and I made Chang, Pete and Courier believe they could do it... So we all helped each other in a lot of ways
> **ANDRE AGASSI**

> Taylor making the final last year was something that hadn't happened for long. Ben lost to the two [eventual] champions at Roland-Garros and Wimbledon. So they're extremely close
> **SEBASTIAN KORDA**

13 American men in the ATP top 100, the joint-most with France

22 Years since an American man lifted a Grand Slam trophy. Andy Roddick was the last to do it, at the 2003 US Open

147 Men's singles Major titles claimed by American men, a tally unmatched in tennis history

STACKING UP

ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Jannik Sinner	24	11,480	17
2	Carlos Alcaraz	22	9,240	20
3	Alexander Zverev	28	6,230	23
4	Taylor Fritz	27	5,575	22
5	Jack Draper	23	4,440	17
6	Ben Shelton	22	4,280	23
7	Novak Djokovic	38	4,130	19
8	Alex de Minaur	26	3,545	23
9	Karen Khachanov	29	3,240	25
10	Lorenzo Musetti	23	3,205	20
11	Holger Rune	22	3,050	22
12	Casper Ruud	26	2,905	23
13	Daniil Medvedev	29	2,760	22
14	Tommy Paul	28	2,610	21
15	Andrey Rublev	27	2,610	28

Top Indians ▶

Sumit Nagal
Rank 299 ▲ 3 spots

Aryan Shah
Rank 392 ▲ 3 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	27	12,010	18
2	Coco Gauff	21	7,669	19
3	Iga Swiatek	24	6,933	16
4	Jessica Pegula	31	5,488	22
5	Mirra Andreeva	18	4,948	19
6	Madison Keys	30	4,579	19
7	Qinwen Zheng	22	4,553	18
8	Amanda Anisimova	23	3,834	21
9	Jasmine Paolini	29	3,586	19
10	Elena Rybakina	26	3,283	21
11	Emma Navarro	24	3,095	26
12	Paula Badosa	27	2,954	21
13	Elina Svitolina	30	2,944	16
14	Karolina Muchova	28	2,838	16
15	Clara Tauson	22	2,726	25

Top Indians ▶

Shrivalli Bhamidipaty
Rank 340 ▼ 23 spots

Sahaja Yamalapalli
Rank 350 ▼ 2 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	284	6
2	Lando Norris	McLaren	275	5
3	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	187	2
4	George Russell	Mercedes	172	1
5	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	151	0
6	Lewis Hamilton	Ferrari	109	0
7	Kimi Antonelli	Mercedes	64	0
8	Alexander Albon	Williams	54	0
9	Nico Hulkenberg	Sauber	37	0
10	Esteban Ocon	Haas	27	0
11	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	26	0
12	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	26	0
13	Isack Hadjar	Racing Bulls	22	0
14	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	20	0
15	Liam Lawson	Racing Bulls	20	0
16	Carlos Sainz	Williams	16	0
17	Gabriel Bortoleto	Sauber	14	0
18	Yuki Tsunoda	Red Bull	10	0
19	Oliver Bearman	Haas	8	0
20	Franco Colapinto	Alpine	0	0

Oscar Piastri

Lando Norris

F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	McLaren	559	11
2	Ferrari	260	0
3	Mercedes	236	1
4	Red Bull	194	2
5	Williams	70	0
6	Aston Martin	52	0
7	Kick Sauber	51	0
8	RB	45	0
9	Haas	35	0
10	Alpine	20	0

Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Shi Yu Qi	1,02,317	12
2	Anders Antonsen	93,153	16
3	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	89,179	18
4	Li Shi Feng	81,078	18
5	Jonatan Christie	76,514	16
6	Chou Tien Chen	75,469	23
7	Alex Lanier	67,821	15
8	Kodai Naraoka	64,134	19
9	Loh Kean Yew	63,319	16
10	Christo Popov	62,217	18
11	Lu Guang Zu	61,860	18
12	Lin Chun-Yi	57,340	16
13	Lee Cheuk Yiu	56,642	19
14	Kenta Nishimoto	56,292	22
15	Toma Junior Popov	55,051	18

Top Indians ▶

Lakshya Sen
Rank 21

Ayush Shetty
Rank 32

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	1,10,120	12
2	Wang Zhi Yi	1,06,862	17
3	Han Yue	91,000	17
4	Chen Yu Fei	82,385	12
5	Akane Yamaguchi	81,284	13
6	Pornpawee Chochuwong	69,708	20
7	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	65,960	13
8	Tomoka Miyazaki	65,364	21
9	Putri Kusuma Wardani	63,600	18
10	Ratchanok Intanon	62,464	18
11	Supanida Katethong	60,527	13
12	Sim Yu Jin	58,309	16
13	Yeo Jia Min	57,543	15
14	Gao Fang Jie	56,130	12
15	P.V. Sindhu	51,634	16

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 15

Malvika Bansod
Rank 29

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Joe Root	908	932
2	Harry Brook	868	898
3	Kane Williamson	858	919
4	Steve Smith	816	947
5	Yashasvi Jaiswal	792	858
6	Temba Bavuma	790	806
7	Kamindu Mendis	781	784
8	Rishabh Pant	768	801
9	Daryl Mitchell	748	807
10	Ben Duckett	747	787

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jasprit Bumrah	889	908
2	Kagiso Rabada	851	902
3	Matt Henry	846	846
4	Pat Cummins	838	914
5	Josh Hazlewood	815	864
6	Noman Ali	806	806
7	Scott Boland	784	784
8	Nathan Lyon	769	812
9	Marco Jansen	767	803
10	Mitchell Starc	766	807

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Shubman Gill	784	847
2	Rohit Sharma	756	882
3	Babar Azam	739	898
4	Virat Kohli	736	909
5	Daryl Mitchell	720	751
6	Charith Asalanka	719	725
7	Harry Tector	708	767
8	Shreyas Iyer	704	710
9	Shai Hope	699	802
10	Ibrahim Zadran	676	693

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Keshav Maharaj	687	741
2	Maheesh Theekshana	671	686
3	Kuldeep Yadav	650	761
4	Bernard Scholtz	644	648
5	Rashid Khan	640	799
6	Mitchell Santner	637	657
7	Matt Henry	622	691
8	Wanindu Hasaranga	619	619
9	Ravindra Jadeja	616	733
10	Adam Zampa	608	699

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Abhishek Sharma	829	829
2	Tilak Varma	804	845
3	Philip Salt	791	881
4	Jos Buttler	772	774
5	Travis Head	771	885
6	Suryakumar Yadav	739	912
7	Pathum Nissanka	736	736
8	Tim Seifert	725	727
9	Tim David	676	680
10	Yashasvi Jaiswal	673	781

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Jacob Duffy	717	723
2	Adil Rashid	710	747
3	Akeal Hosein	707	714
4	Varun Chakravarthy	706	706
5	Adam Zampa	700	746
6	Wanindu Hasaranga	679	809
7	Ravi Bishnoi	674	707
8	Rashid Khan	664	828
9	Nathan Ellis	658	664
10	Arshdeep Singh	653	679

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KNOW MORE

Non-AC sleeper bus service from Bengaluru to Sigandur

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) commenced a new non-AC sleeper bus service between Bengaluru and Sigandur on Friday.

A release said the bus will depart from Bengaluru at 9.40 p.m. and arrive at Sigandur at 6 a.m. the following day. On the return journey, the bus will leave Sigandur at 8 p.m. and reach Bengaluru at 4.15 a.m.

Route

The route covers key towns such as Chitradurga, Holalkere, Chennagiri, and Shivamogga, catering to passengers from several districts along the way.

The fare has been fixed at ₹950 per passenger.

Facing heat from teachers, govt. reduces LBA marks

The CPI has recently issued an order that the LBA for classes 1 to 5 should be assessed for a total of 15 marks, including a written test for 10 marks and an oral test for five marks

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the wake of strong opposition from teachers, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DSEL) has reduced the marks allotted for Lesson Based Assessment (LBA) to 15 for students of classes 1 to 5 and 20 for students of classes 6 to 10. Earlier, it had announced that the LBA would have 25 marks for all students.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has implemented LBA from the current academic year. FILE PHOTO

The Commissioner of Public Instruction has recently issued an order that the LBA for classes 1 to 5 should be assessed for a total of 15 marks, including a written test for 10 marks and an oral test for five marks. Students of classes 6 and 7 should be assessed for 20 marks, including objective and descriptive questions. And, students of classes 8 to 10 should be asked questions for 20 marks, including multiple choice and descriptive questions.

The districts implementing the Maru Sinchana programme should conduct assessment for a total of 20 marks, considering LBA for 15 marks and Maru Sinchana programme questions for five marks, except for Hindi language from classes 6 to 10. It has been stated that one LBA should be conducted for every three lessons in the subject of Social Science from classes 6 to 10, the order said.

The department has implemented LBA from the current academic year. According to this, government, aided, and private schools following the State curriculum are required to conduct LBA without fail and update marks obtained by the students and lesson plans online on the Student Achievement Tracking System portal. However, teachers across the State had opposed LBA, saying that this was creating unnecessary pressure.

The Hindu reported the same on July 30, 2025. Following this, the department has now reduced LBA marks.

Music event tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kalapremi Foundation will present "Ragaantharanga: Realizing the Raga-s," a unique musical experience featuring vocalist Ranjani Vasuki and scholar and performer Satavadhani R. Ganesh on Sunday. The programme will be held at the Seva Sadan Auditorium, opposite MLA College on 14th Cross, in Malleswaram, at 6 p.m.

Spotlight

Read longform articles from our regional editions

- **Andhra Pradesh:** Lives caught in debt and despair **newsth.live/despair**
- **Delhi:** The weight of being a mango man **newsth.live/mangoman**
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MCC students oppose arbitrary dress code; allege moral policing

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The undergraduate and postgraduate students of Mount Carmel College (MCC), Bengaluru, have alleged that the college administration is "harassing" them under the pretext of the dress code. However, college authorities have denied the allegations and said there was nothing offensive in the rules.

"Since the start of this academic year, the administration has introduced repressive and anti-student policies, treating adults like schoolchildren and implementing its new dress code in a severely gendered and humiliating manner," alleged a group of students of the Collective Bangalore.

They alleged that in the past couple of weeks, students have been sent home from the gates even though many live far from campus and take multiple modes of transport to reach college on time. "Female students have been disproportionately targeted by the security guards. The vague and arbitrary language of the dress code policy has enabled such moral policing, leaving students confused and subject to public humiliation," alleged students.

The collective said that several students leave campus during their lunch break for meals, rest, and other reasons, but are now forced to remain on campus and eat in the university's canteen.

"The reason behind this new policy, like the dress code, remains unclear and non-transparent," they said.

"Students' movement is also being controlled by the university in clear cases of administrative overreach. Forced to show their time tables at the gate, students can now only exit campus if they have no more classes for the day," the statement said, adding that there is no forum to air their grievaces.

College denies charge

However, speaking to *The Hindu*, George Lekha, principal of MCC, said, "We have seen the social media campaign. The dress code is there in the calendar, and it is spoken of to the students and their parents during the orientation programme. We are not imposing a very strict dress code like certain other colleges. We have a certain freedom, and within that freedom, we expect ways of dressing. It is what we have been telling them. I don't understand why they are offended."

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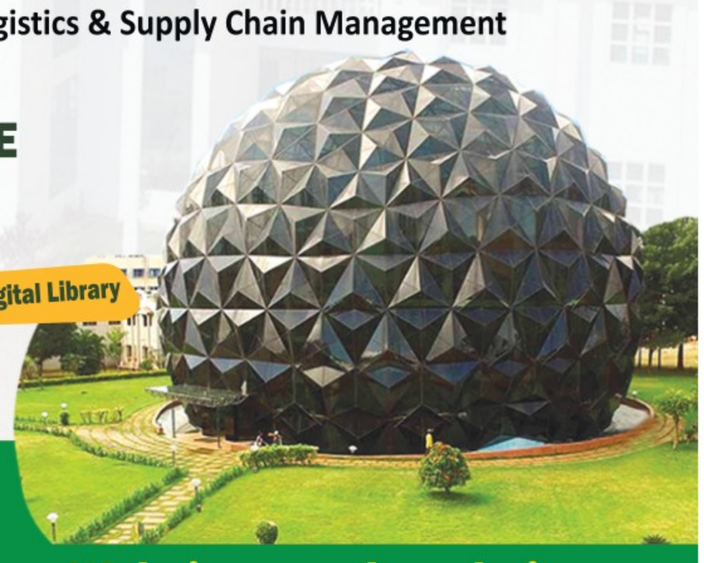

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GETTY IMAGES

I am 33... but Ronaldo is 40, Messi 38: Manpreet refuses to slow down

Only the second Indian hockey player to make 400 appearances, Manpreet is still among the fittest in the world game. Despite his remarkable longevity, the ace midfielder knows he is forever on trial. But he is determined to defy the age curve in the major events coming up

Uthra Ganesan

When Manpreet Singh first came into the Indian team, he was only 19. The baby of the side, a prankster and yet, a leader. The leadership was first seen when he was named captain for the Under-18 Asia Cup in 2008 and then the 2013 Junior World Cup, by which time he was already an Olympian.

Now the team's senior-most player at 33, Manpreet has been setting new benchmarks, topping the charts even in a side that takes visible pride in its fitness standards. His regular updates on social media, showcasing an eight-pack, are as impressive as his journey from a spiky haired, tattoo-flaunting teenager to the suave father of two.

Loving every minute

And he is in no mood to slow down. "It's been 14 years – starting with the Asian Champions Trophy in 2011, through four Olympics and three World Cups, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games each. It's been a long journey, but I have loved every minute," he tells *The Hindu* in an exclusive interaction ahead of the all-important Asia Cup.

"I am now targeting the Asian Games next year. My fitness is good, I'm playing well. I know exactly what my level is after every match. So the major events are the Asia Cup, World Cup and Asian Games. These are the three in which I want to give my 100%," he insists.

It has been a long journey for the kid from Mithapur village and he looks back at it often. "When I went to the inaugural ACT, it was a dream come true, wearing the national colours for the first time. After that, playing for the country at the 2012 Olympics was a big thing. Every sportsperson dreams of the Olympics; only a few get the chance. But a kid's dream was broken because we came 12th in London. But it also told us how far ahead world hockey was.

> A kid's dream was broken because we came 12th in London. But it also told us how far ahead world hockey was. I think that was the beginning of the revival of the team

> It should be visible when Manpreet is playing that he is assisting, running, giving 100%... but the moment I feel I am struggling, I will quit, I won't give anyone a chance to kick me out

MURALI KUMAR K

"I think that was the beginning of the revival of the team, everyone wanting to improve. After that, we won the 2014 Asian Games, got a silver in the Commonwealth Games. It has been a good journey. Lots of ups and downs, won silver twice in the Champions Trophy. So it has been like a roller coaster," he reminisces.

The ups and downs are reflected on the field as well. As a centre-half, Manpreet always knew his was a position that could make or break the team's chances and yet the performances would often slip under the radar. Over the years, though, he has not just become the quintessential modern-day all-rounder but also forced the spotlight on himself by his sheer presence.

Coach Harendra Singh termed him 'aalu' (potato) – able to fit in anywhere, do anything, raising the levels every time. His ability to switch flanks in a blink, race the length of the field in a blur to assist the attack or the defence, outwit the opposition with feints and sidestep rivals with an outstretched stick ensured that, every time the team was stuck in a no-space situation, it could rely on Manpreet to break through.

The icing was the Tokyo Olympics bronze, with Manpreet wearing the captain's armband. "When it finally happened, it felt special. It had been a long wait, none of us had actually ever seen an Olympic hockey medal. And when we came back, we realised we had achieved something. We were getting so much love, people were beginning to follow Indian hockey again.

"The armband is just a token, I can't do anything alone. Yes, on the field, I can motivate someone if they make a mistake. But everyone has to take their own responsibility. Being stuck together during Covid helped. We spoke about how much we have sacrificed. Some players had lost their parents, who dreamt of their son at the Olympics. In hockey, no one comes from a comfortable background, it's a struggle for everyone."

Learning from the best

He credits his captaincy lessons to learning from some of the best in the business. "During the earlier Hockey India League, I played with England's Barry Middleton and Ashley Jackson and my idol, Germany's Moritz Furste. All legendary players, captains of their national sides. [I learnt] how to be during a match. Even when I played badly, he [Furste] would tell me I was a very good player, I should not think about the past, only the future.

"In the Indian team, there were seniors like Sardara Singh and Sreejesh, both having been captain before me. I learned a lot from them on how to lead, motivate players, step up under pressure. Seniors like Tushar Khandker, who was my roommate, helped me learn from mistakes. It made things easier," he says.

The success, however, also brought into focus his longevity, leading to questions about his replacement. This, despite the fact that Manpreet continues to be among the fittest in world hockey. Post-Tokyo, he lost the captaincy, but it only freed him up as a player. Manpreet 2.0 has been a revelation, taking his game higher than anyone could have expected.

He admits it is difficult to completely shut out the noise around his age and is aware that he is forever on trial. And, with the retirement of Sreejesh after the Paris Olympics, he knows he is the next under the lens, despite becoming only the second Indian ever to reach the magic number of 400 international appearances during the recent Pro League in Europe.

"It happened before the Hockey India League, the Pro League but I proved them wrong. I worked on my fitness, knowing I should not give anyone a chance to question my presence. It should be visible when Manpreet is playing that he is assisting, running, giving 100%. But yes, it is not easy to completely ignore all talk. These things do affect you. But I believe if I am good enough to compete with the young players, and until I am doing well, I will continue.

"I am 33 but there are a lot of good players older than me in world sports. Ronaldo is 40, Messi is 38. But the moment I feel I am struggling, I will quit, I won't give anyone a chance to kick me out," he declares.

An incredible fifth?

If he continues in the same vein, it is not impossible to imagine Manpreet, at 36, playing in an incredible fifth Olympics. But the man himself isn't looking that far ahead. "LA28 is three years away, we don't know what's going to happen in these three years. Next year, yes. Not beyond that," he says, smiling.

And then? "I will spend some time with my family. It is difficult staying away for so long. My wife, Illi, understands my first priority is hockey. Even after my second daughter Avelyn was born, she told me to focus on the game. My elder daughter Jasmine cries every time I have to leave home. But when she says I am proud of you, that pushes me to do better. When I gave her the medal in Paris, it was like fulfilling a dream. It's okay. I'm making sacrifices now, but in the long run, she'll be proud of me."

GAME THEORY

The US Open's greatest men's champions

With the singles events of the year's fourth and final tennis Major, the US Open, getting underway on Sunday, we take a look at the most successful men in the tournament's history. The inaugural edition, featuring only men, was held in 1881. The tournament was limited to amateurs until 1968, when the Open Era began and professionals were allowed in.

Richard Sears

Most singles titles: Men

Player	Titles	Years
Richard Sears	7	1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887
William Larned	7	1901, 1902, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911
Bill Tilden	7	1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1929
Jimmy Connors	5	1974, 1976, 1978, 1982, 1983
Pete Sampras	5	1990, 1993, 1995, 1996, 2002
Roger Federer	5	2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
Robert Wrenn	4	1893, 1894, 1896, 1897
John McEnroe	4	1979, 1980, 1981, 1984
Rafael Nadal	4	2010, 2013, 2017, 2019
Novak Djokovic	4	2011, 2015, 2018, 2023
Oliver Campbell	3	1890, 1891, 1892
Malcolm Whitman	3	1898, 1899, 1900
Fred Perry	3	1933, 1934, 1936
Ivan Lendl	3	1985, 1986, 1987

Bill Tilden

Men's titles by country

Country	Titles	First title	Most recent title
U.S.	85	1881	2003
Australia	18	1951	2001
Spain	7	1965	2022
Switzerland	6	2004	2016
Great Britain	5	1903	2012

Jimmy Connors

Pete Sampras

Roger Federer

SOURCE: US OPEN

PICTURE THIS

GETTY IMAGES

Scything water

This photograph captures a French athlete competing in the slalom event during the Waterski European Open Championships in the Salmsee in Steyregg, Austria.

Water skiing involves athletes, pulled behind a boat or a cable-ski installation, attempting to skim the water surface on skis (or a single ski). The sport requires a stretch of water, a tow boat with the appropriate equipment and two trained personnel (the driver and the spotter or observer) in the boat. Competitive water skiers need excellent core strength, muscular endurance and balance.

In the European Open Championships, athletes compete in three disciplines: slalom, trick and jump. Each is judged and scored differently.

In slalom, skiers slash through the water around a multi-buoy course, raising walls of spray over 30 feet into the air and accelerate through the wake, experiencing G-forces not unlike race car drivers. Trick, the most technical of the categories, involves flips, spins and twists. Jump skiers hit a 6-foot ramp and fly over 200 feet in the air before landing on the water surface.

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BMTC intensifies safety measures after series of accidents involving its buses

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has stepped up its safety measures to ensure accident-free driving by its staff, following a review of road mishaps involving its buses.

On Friday, a meeting was chaired by the corporation's Managing Director, divisional controllers, traffic officers, engineers, and depot managers were directed to issue daily instructions to drivers on safe driving practices and strict adherence to traffic rules.

According to BMTC, it has recorded four fatal accidents in August 2025, one of which involved an electric bus.

"Investigations revealed that drivers were not at fault in three cases, while in the fourth, responsibility was shared between passengers and the bus driver. Most of such incidents occur when two-wheeler riders attempt dangerous overtaking manoeuvres," an official said.

To enhance awareness, BMTC has trained more than 11,800 drivers since December 2023 in collaboration with Bengaluru Traffic Police. Sessions include video presentations of accident cases at the Traffic Command Centre. "In addition, 1,187 electric bus drivers have undergone specialised training," the official added.

The corporation has also revised running times on 2,000 schedules to reduce driver stress and continues to reward drivers with accident-free records. "Strict disciplinary action, including suspension, transfer, and dismissal, has been mandated for violations such as mobile phone use, negligence, or involvement in fatal accidents," official explained.

Meanwhile, BMTC urged commuters and motorists to follow traffic rules, stressing that reckless overtaking near heavy vehicles poses grave risks to all road users.

HC: Take action but do not harass individual bike taxi owners

The court gave this clarification when the A-G complained that aggregators had started offering bike taxis on their platforms even though the court had not given any such a liberty to them

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Friday orally clarified to State Advocate-General Shashi Kiran Shetty that the court, on August 20, had only asked the A-G to instruct the authorities not to take any precipitative action against individual bike taxi owners or drivers for operating their vehicles.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Joshi gave this clarification during morning session when the A-G complained that aggregators, such as Uber, Ola and Rapido, had started offering bike taxis on their platforms even though the court had not given any such liberty to them.

"You can take any action as per law against them [aggregators]," the Bench orally told the A-G while reiterating that it had asked the authorities "not to harass" individual bike taxi owners or drivers. Meanwhile, an advocate representing the Bike Taxi Welfare Association (BTWA) and individual bike taxi owners, pointed out to the Bench that transport authorities were seizing individual bike taxis and taking action against the drivers despite a clear instruction from the court not to take coercive steps against the owners and drivers.

In response, the Bench told the A-G that it could pass an order in writing to ensure that bike taxi owners or drivers were not harassed by authorities. Mr. Shetty assured the Bench that he would instruct the authorities appropriately.

An advocate, representing the Bike Taxi Welfare Association, pointed out that authorities were seizing individual bike taxis and taking action against the drivers despite a clear instruction from the court not to take coercive step against them. FILE PHOTO

The advocates representing aggregators say it would be difficult for bike taxi owners to connect with the customers without an app and hence offered to allow use of their platforms

Offer of aggregators

Following the clarification, the advocates representing aggregators pointed out to the Bench in the afternoon session that it would be difficult for individual bike taxi owners to connect with the customers without an app, and hence offered to allow use of their platforms to bike taxi owners and drivers free of cost till the court adjudicates the issue.

However, the Bench noted that allowing such a request would amount to passing an interim order, and it would not be proper for it to pass any interim order at this stage as it was hearing the pleas finally.

Bike taxis continue to ply

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Despite the Karnataka High Court's clarification, bike taxi services continued to operate in Bengaluru on Friday evening.

Checks by *The Hindu* around 9.30 p.m. revealed that Ola, Rapido, and Uber were still offering bookings for bike taxis within the city. When contacted regarding the continued operations and the court's clarification, spokespersons of Uber and Rapido declined to respond, while Ola could not be reached for a comment.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy told *The Hindu* that action would be initiated against aggregators if they were operating. "If they continue to run services despite the court's clarification, it amounts to contempt," he said.

HC rules in favour of age-barred widow to get job

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the North-West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) to appoint on compassionate grounds a 48-year-old widow to a Group D post considering it as a special case even though she has crossed the upper age limit of 45 years when she had applied for the appointment.

The court considered it as a special case as Lakshmavva of Gadag, who had lost her husband, an employee in NWKRTC, had no means to earn a livelihood. The couple have no children.

"The purpose of appointing a person on a compassionate basis is to ensure that the livelihood of the dependants of the deceased employee continues without any hardship and offers security to an employee that even after his expiry, his dependants would be taken care of by the employer," the court observed.

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2	1. **Ningegowda Alias Raju,** Ujjanahalli (peehalli) Village, Singarajapura, Virupakshipura Hobli, Channapatana-562138. (also Residing At 1st Main, 1st Cross, 470 Mahadeshwar Nagara Housing Board, Channapatana, Ramanagara.-562160). 2. **Mrs. Rathnamma,** W/o Ningegowda Alias Raju, Ujjanahalli (peehalli) Village, Singarajapura, Virupakshipura Hobli, Channapatana-562138. (also Residing At 1st Main, 1st Cross, 470 Mahadeshwar Nagara Housing Board, Channapatana, Ramanagara-562160.)	**05-03-2025 & Rs. 16,26,088-00**	**Rs. 17,05,709-00 (Plus Interest & Other Charges thereon)**	All The Part And The Parcel Of Residential Site And Building In The Name Of **Mr. Ningegowda Alias Raju & Mrs. Rathnamma,** Bearing Muncipal Site No LIG-470, LIG Extension KHB S&S, CMC Mahadeshwaranagara, Channapatana Town, Ramangara Dist, **Measuring East - West: 9 meters, North - South: 12 meters, Total 108 Square meters, Bounded On The East:** Site No 471, **West:** Site No 469, **North:** 6 meters Road, **South:** Site No 461.	**21-08-2025**

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Lot No	Name & Address of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Description of the immovable assets:	1. Total Dues 2. Auction Date & Time	a. Reserve Price b. EMD c. Incremental Bid	Inspection date & time EMD deposited date
1	**(1) M/s. Navadurga Sea Foods, (Regd and Administrative Office Address)** 1st Cross, No.11/2, R.V. Road, Pattabhiramaiah Street, Mavalli, Bengaluru-560004, **and also at :** Near Cosmo Club, No.1-3-18/20-1, Sathya Krishna Homes, Suryanarayanapuram, Bhimavaram West Godavari, Andrapradesh-534202. **(2) Mr. Adinarayana Setty. B (Partner and Guarantor)** C/o Krishnaiah Shetty. Y. S, No.685, 3rd Main Road, Raghavendra Block, Srinagar, Bengaluru-560050, **And also at :** No.948/949, 13th Main Road, Srinagar, Banashankari, Bengaluru-560050. **(3) Mr. Gudala Sri Hari Gopala Rao, (Partner and Guarantor)** No.7-47, Opp Raghava Rice Mill, P. P. Road, West Godavari, Veeravasaram, Andrapradesh-534245. **(4) Mr. Thyagaraj V R (Partner, Guarantor and Mortgagor), (5) Mrs. Saraswathi. B (Guarantor and Mortgagor)** W/o Mr. R. Bhaskar, **(6) Mr. Bhaskar. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor)** S/o Mr. R. Ramalingam, **(7) Mrs. Shantha. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor)** W/o Mr. Ramalingam, **(8) Mrs. Latha. T. G (Guarantor And Mortgagor),** W/o Mr. Thyagaraj. V. R, **(9) Mrs. Prema. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor), All are residing at:** No.12/91-2, 1st Main Road, New Kalappa Block, Ramachandrapuram, Srirampuram, Behind Devi Theatre, Bengaluru-560021. **(10) Mrs. Prema. R (Guarantor And Mortgagor)** W/o Mr. G. Ramesh, No.8/1, 1st Main Road, New Kalappa Block, Ramachandrapuram, Srirampuram, Bengaluru-560021.	All that part and parcel of the residentially converted vacant land bearing Sy. No 14/2 carved out of Sy No 14 measuring 32.5 guntas of Dasarahalli Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk duly converted for residential purposes vide Official memorandum bearing No. ALN SR (S.A) 78/95-96 dated 04.11.1995 issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, presently bearing BBMP Khata No 27/14/2 within the limits of BBMP Ward No 6, Thanisandra ,Bangalore belonging to Sri. V R Thyagaraj, Sri. R Bhaskar, Smt. Latha T G, Smt. Saraswathi, Smt. R Shantha and Smt. R Prema. Boundaries as follows: East: Site No- 41, 42,43 and 44 in Sy. No 13/2, Swimming Pool and Club House, West: Site No. 8, 9,10,11,12, and Road in Old Sy. No.14, New Sy. No. 14/1, North: Site No. 38, carved out of old Sy. No. 14, New Sy. No. 14/1, South: Remaining portion of Sy. No. 14 measuring 10 guntas Coordinates of the property.	**Rs. 17,68,05,416.70 as on 19.08.2025 with further interest and cost thereon** **09.09.2025 10.00 AM to 10.30 AM**	**a) Rs. 1990.85 Lakhs** **b) Rs. 199.09 Lakhs** **c) Rs. 1.00 Lakhs**	**30.08.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** **before 08.09.2025 5.00 PM**
2	**(1) Mr.Abrarul Haque** S/o Naseemul ghani, No 25 2nd Floor 2nd A Cross, Kanakanagar, Bengaluru-560032 **(2) Mr. Rizwan Khan** C/o Rafeeque Khan, No 25 2nd Floor 2nd A Cross, Kanakanagar, Bengaluru -560032.	**ITEM No.1 : A**ll the piece and parcel of the immovable Property being Un-developed residentially Converted Land bearing Sy.No.136/3, to an extent 26 guntas out of 32 guntas bearing katha No. form (11) 8452 & form (9) 8300 and Land bearing Sy.No,136/4, to an extent of 25 guntas bearlng katha No. form (11)8453 and form (9) 8301, in all measuring 1 acre and 11 Guntas bearing and duly converted to residentially use asper the Order bearing Conversion Order bearing No ALN(A)(A)SR:142/2013-14 dated 03/01/2014 issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, The building construction plan approved by BMRDA Vide Approval No.APA/CC/655/2014-15 situated at Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru district bounded on the East by : Land belonging to Pujarappa, West by : Land belonging to Ramaswamy (now belonging to M/s S2 Homes) and Road, North by : Remaining extent of 6 guntas in Sy. No.136/3 belonging to S Rama Reddy and thereafter 20 feet road, South by : Land belonging to Ramaiah. **Item No.2 :** All the piece and parcel of the Immovable Property being Un-developed Residentially Converted Land bearing Sy.No.136/1, to an extent 10 guntas i.e., 10,890 Square feet and duly converted to residentially use as per the Order bearing Conversion Order bearing No.ALN(A)(A)SR:252/2011-12 dated 05/03/2012 issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, The building construction plan approved by BMRDA Vide Approval No.APA/CC/655/2014-15 situated at Kammasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, and bounded on the: East by : Remaining portion in Sy. No.136 belonging to Sri.Rama Reddy, West by : Road, North by : Remaining portion in Sy. No.136/1 belonging to Sri.Chandrashekar, South by : Remaining portion in Sy.No.136 belonging to Lakshmi and Ramaswamy. **Schedule-b Property :** 493 Sqft., share of undivided right, title and interest in the SCHEDULE-A PROPERTY, and the Residential apartment bearing Flat NO. FF-10, CMC-KHATHA# 10673/5382/8300/8301/136/1,3,4/D/4th F-FF10 measuring super built up are of 2031 sqft., in the C Block, Fourth Floor of construction, the apartment building to be named as "S2 HOMES – THE WATERGROVE", apartment consisting of 2 Bedrooms, with proportionate right in the common areas and bounded on the: East by : Corridor, West by : Open Space, North by : Flat No.-FF-11 South by : Flat No-FF-9.	**Rs. 1,18,51,444.00 as on 18.08.2025 with further interest and cost thereon** **11.09.2025 10.30 AM to 11.00 AM**	**a) Rs. 59,45,600.00** **b) Rs. 5,94,560.00** **c) Rs. 50,000.00**	**29.08.2025 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM.** **before 10.09.2025 4.00 PM**
3	**(1) Raviteja Peetha** S/o Krupa Rao Peetha, NIT No.96, Waterfall Heights Jason, Close Vorna Valley Midrand, Hyderabad, Telangana-500017. **(2) Peetha Ankamma,** H No.3-5-47/3/5 Shiva Nagar Colony Near More Super Market Hyderabad Rajendranagar Attapur Rangareddy Telangana-500048.	**SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing BBMP khatha No 637/94/1B converted Sy no 94/1B (converted vide conversion Certificate bearing No BDS/ALN (E)VB:SR:455/2003-04, Dated 03.03.2004 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), situated at Doddakannelli Village, Varthur Hobli, Banglore East Taluk, measuring about 0-21¼ guntas or 23,141.25 sq.ft out of 0-24¼ guntas and bound on: East By: Property of Shesha Reddy, West By: Property of Doreswamy Mudaliar, NorthBy: Property of Somashekar Reddy, South By: Road. **SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY:** 901.80 Square Feet of undivided share, right, title and interest and ownership in the Schedule "A" property. **SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY :** Residential Apartment / Flat bearing No.101, situated at the first floor of the apartment building called "LENDEE SENTOSA", constructed on the land described in the schedule 'A' above admeasuring 2020 Square Feet of super built up area along with one covered car parking space in basement floor, consisting of three bedrooms, three bathrooms, hall, kitchen with utility, dining which includes built up area of apartment and proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use with ceramic floor.	**Rs. 1,44,38,460.16 as on with further interest and cost thereon.** **12.09.2025 10.30 AM to 11.00 AM**	**a) Rs. 157.23 Lakhs** **b) Rs. 15.73 Lakhs** **c) Rs. 1.00 Lakhs**	**06.09.2025 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM.** **before 11.09.2025 4.00 PM**

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 6301683293 and 9483544116 during office hours on any working day.

Date : 22.08.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-
Authorised Officer, Canara Bank

Lawyer Jagadish Kumar detained for questioning

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Police on Friday detained lawyer K. N. Jagadish Kumar, whose name was brought up in the just-concluded Monsoon Session by MLA for Yelahanka S.R. Vishwanath, and questioned him for hours.

The Kodigehalli Police had served a notice on Jagadish after a social worker filed a complaint claiming the lawyer hurt sentiments of the SC/ST community and provoked enmity between religious groups.

The complainant, Manjunath, showed a video to the police shared by Jagadish from his Instagram account, and alleged that the latter had commented on both SC/ST women and the Muslim community.

The video was allegedly intended towards MLA for Vijayapura Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, as Jagadish said that Yatnal should get one of his sons married to a woman from the SC/ST community, and another to a Muslim woman, according to the complainant.

"The comments by Jagadish not only hurt the sentiments of the SC/ST community, but they are also of a nature that promotes enmity between the Lingayat and Muslim communities. The video also promotes enmity between two religions," the complainant told the police.

Based on his complaint, the police have filed an FIR against Jagadish under Sections 196 and 299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

A police officer from Kodigehalli said,

"We cannot reveal anything now. If his answers are not satisfying, we will think about the arrest."

HC and city civil court receive hoax bomb threat

The email content was not related to Bengaluru but to a political party in Tamil Nadu: Police officer

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court and Bengaluru City Civil Court in central Bengaluru received bomb threats via email on Friday, which the police declared a hoax after extensive searches.

The emails were sent early in the morning, but it came to the notice of the authorities around 11 a.m. Subsequently, the police were informed.

Preliminary findings revealed that the sender has created a temporary account on Yandex mail, which is a Russian email service. K. MURALI KUMAR

Searches carried out

The Bomb Disposal Squad, canine squad, and police teams rushed to the courts and carried out searches on the premises for the next hour. However, no explosives were found. According to a police officer, the email content was not related to Bengaluru but to a political party in Tamil Nadu.

The content of the message centred around caste issues in a political party in Tamil Nadu. "The email claimed to have planted explosives in the establishment, but the content was nowhere related to the city. It was pretty clear from the start that the email might be a hoax," the officer said.

Russian email service

Preliminary findings revealed that the sender had used a Virtual Private Network and had created a temporary account on Yandex Mail, which is a Russian email service.

No fault in compulsorily retiring civil judge for threatening police inspector: High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A Division Bench noted that it was proved in an inquiry that Gangadhar had abused the police officials over phone

The High Court of Karnataka has found nothing illegal in compulsorily retiring a civil judge in 2012 for interfering in a criminal case on behalf of a woman and threatening a police officer in Bengaluru.

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice C.M. Joshi passed the order on August 19 dismissing an appeal filed by K.M. Gangadhar, challenging the February 25, 2025, verdict of a single judge, who had dismissed his petition challenging the October 1, 2012, order of compulsorily retiring him from service after holding an inquiry. When Mr. Gangadhar was functioning as a civil judge (senior division) and XIII Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bengaluru City, a complaint was received from one Indumathi, alleging that he was interfering in the investigations being conducted by the police in respect of a complaint lodged by her against one Anasuya.

It was alleged that the appellant had threatened the police officials of dire consequences if they called Ms. Anasuya to the police station.

On an inquiry conducted through the Registrar (Vigilance) of the High Court, it was found that Mr. Gangadhar had threatened police inspector H.T. Jayaramaiah, who was then serving in the Nandini Layout police station.

The Bench noted that it was also proved in the inquiry that Mr. Gangadhar had abused the police officials over phone and had threatened them over a phone call that lasted for about 10 to 15 minutes on August 20, 2007.

"We find no infirmity with either the procedure adopted nor find that the punishment imposed is highly disproportionate," the Bench observed in its order.

Labourer mowed down by lorry near Byadarahalli

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 36-year-old pedestrian was mowed down by a tipper lorry near Byadarahalli in west Bengaluru on Wednesday night, police said. According to the police, the deceased has been identified as Biswanath Parida, a labourer at a factory in west Bengaluru.

The police said that the incident occurred when Parida was walking back home after dinner on the Magadi Main Road, in Byadarahalli, around 9.30 p.m.

The lorry knocked him down and dragged him for a couple of metres. Before the people in the vicinity gathered, the driver and cleaner of the vehicle fled from the scene. Parida died on the spot.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Smt.G.Sarala W/o Sri.G.Eswar Naidu,** is intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **1)Mr.Ramesh k Menon** S/o Late.Karunakara Menon, **2) Mrs.Rekha Menon** D/o Radhakrishna Nottath and **3) Mr.Shivaprasad.M** S/o Mr.Muninarayana Swamy.D; any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Residential vacant **Plot No.208,** and Katha No.309/208 and forming portion of **"AIRPORT COUNTY"** (formerly known as 'SANCTUARY 2000') situated in converted Sy No.62 of Mutugadahalli Village and Sy. Nos. 78, 79, 80, 81, 82 & 83 (Plot No.208,carved out of Sy.no.81/2) of **BEGUR Village, both Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** measuring 2400 square feet (60 X 40 feet) and bounded on:
East by : Plot No. 195. West by : Road, North by : Plot No.207. South by : Plot No.209.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 9108784843, 080-48658774
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Mr. C. Rajashekar,** aged about 51 years, S/o Sri C K Chanabasappa, residing at No 2, 2nd Main, Viskasanagar, Nagasandra Post, Tumkur Road, Bangalore -560073 represents to me that the original sale deed dated 12/06/2014 executed by Sri N V Rathnaiah Shetty in favour of **Mr. C. Rajashekar** registered as document No BMH-1-01910-2014-15, CD No BMHD677 in the office of sub registrar Bommanahalli, Bangalore has been lost at APMC Yard Yeshwanthapura , Bangalore. In spite of best efforts the same could not be found out, in this regard my client has lodged a complaint. Hence the public are hereby notified that if anyone is in possession of the above said **original Sale deed dated 12/06/2014** the same may be handover to the undersigned **within 7 days** for the date of this public notice.

Place: Bangalore, Date: 23.08.2025
BASAVARAJU.H, Advocate
A & B Law Associates, No 2720, 12th Main,4th Block Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011, **Mob : 9611988555**

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Portal only)

E-Tenders are invited through GoK e-procurement portal (Website URL: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) for the following Procurements.

1) KPCL/2025-26/IND1793/CALL-2 Thermo gravimetric Analyzer. **EMD:** Rs.48,400/-. **2) KPCL/2025-26/IND1939** Caustic soda Lye. **EMD:** Rs.1,33,000/-. **3) KPCL/2025-26/IND1936** Zinc Sulphate for the year 2025-26. **EMD:** Rs.14,000/-. **4) KPCL/2025-26/IND1937** Polyacrylamide dispersant. **EMD :** Rs 22,800/-. **5) KPCL/2025-26/IND1938** Sodium chlorite. **EMD:** Rs.3,25,500/-. **6) KPCL/2025-26/IND1801/CALL-2**. Aluminium insulation sheets EMD : Rs.2,900/-.

Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders : for Sl. No.1 & 2. Dt. 29-08-2025, 16:00, for Sl. No.3 & 4. Dt. 02-09-2025, 16:00. for Sl. No.5. Dt. 17-09-2025, 16:00. for Sl. No.6 Dt. 28-08-2025, 16:00.

Any further details can be had from the Executive Engineer (Purchase), RTPS, Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd, Shaktinagar-584170, Dist. Raichur, Cell: 9449597966, e-Mail id: eeprtps@gmail.com

e-mail:- serw_ctc@yahoo.com

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, CUTTACK

No:-Tender Online RWC -16/2025, Letter No.:- 2830 Date : 18.08.2025

e - Procurement NOTICE

1. Name of the Work : Construction of Road & Bridge works.
2. Class of Contractor
   c) Estimated cost more than Rs.6.00 Crore & upto Rs.50.00 Crore : Special Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.
   d) Estimated cost more than Rs.1.00 Crore & upto Rs.20.00 Crore : A Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.
   c) Estimated cost more than Rs.20.00 Lakh & upto Rs.3.00 Crore : B Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.
3. Time for Completion : As specified in the Column-7 of the Annexure
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Other Details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender	
1	2	3	4	5	1	2
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Cuttack.	Tender Online RWC - 16/25	25.08.2025 at 11.30 A.M.	10.09.2025 up to 05.00 P.M	10.09.2025 up to 02.00 P.M	11.09.2025 at 11.30 A.M	Will be intimated later

Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in** .

Chief Construction Engineer,
Rural Works Circle, Cuttack.

O-636: OIPR-25097/11/0028/2526

Government of Karnataka
GULBARGA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, KALABURAGI
(Autonomous Institution of Govt. of Karnataka)
E-mail:directorgimsgulbarga@gmail.com Phone No 08472-260252

No. GIMS/KLB/Tender/OS-1/CR/89/2025-26/1380 Date:21-08-2025.

:: TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-procurement) ::

Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi invites tender for eligible bidders in bid system (Techno-commercial Bid & Financial Bid) in e-procurement 2.0 mode for providing the **Technical and Non-Technical Group C Posts Services through Manpower Agencies on Outsource basis to Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi.** Details are available in the site: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date and time for upload of e-tender in E-procurement platform as follows.

1) Commencement of download of e-Tender Form from website-https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in **No. GIMS/KLB/Tender/OS-1/CR/89/2025-26, Date:21/08/2025, DME/2025-26/SE0534.**, 2) Last Date for Queries: **06-09-2025 at 17:00 pm**, 3) Pre-bid Meeting: **09-09-2025 at 12:30 pm**, 4) Last Date for Uploading of Tender in e-procurement platform on or before: **20-09-2025 at 4.30 pm**, 5) Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid: **22-09-2025 at 05:00 pm**, 6) Opening of Tenders Financial bid : **23-09-2025 at 11:30 am**, 7) Tender amount: **Rs. 6,56,16,029=00**, 7) EMD : **Rs. 13,12,500=00**, 8) Contact Details: Director, GIMS Kalaburagi veresh Nagar sedam road Kalaburagi 585105. Office Email: directorgimsgulbarga@gmail.com Land Line:08472-260252 Cell:+91 9482093568 Tender Section Email: gimstenderklb22@gmail.com Cell:+91 9972688602

Sd/- Director,
Gulbarga Institute of Medical Sciences, Kalaburagi.
DIPR/Kalaburagi/422/KSMC&A/2025-26

DOCUMENT LOST

General public are here by notified that **I, Lakhsmi W/o Mallikarjuna .A**, aged about 53 years, Residing at No.133, Nagaraj colony, Immadihalli, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru – 560066, have lost Original Sale deed dt: 25/07/2001 registered as **Document No. 4645/2001-02** Purchased by Sri. S. Srikantaiah from Sri. M. Nagaraj in respect of Site No.14, Katha No.54, Property No.26/3, Situated at Hagadur Village, K.R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru. The document holds immense significance as proof of ownership. The document is being missed while traveling in vehicle. In spite of best to search, it could not be traced.

If found **Contact: 9742696931 or Please inform nearby Police station. Reference e-Lost Report No.1763071/2025 dated 21/08/2025.**

Government of Karnataka - Karnataka Forest Department
Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Hosanagara Sub Division, Hosanagara.
District: Shivamogga, Taluk: Hosanagara,
e-Mail ID: acfhnr@gmail.com
No: ACF/HNR/AOA, RSP,DDF,CAMPA/CR-1/2025-26/CALL-2/48
No: ACF/HNR/KFDF-CANE/CR-1/2025-26/CALL-1 Date: 20.08.2025

Detailed e-Tender Notice (Short-Term e-Tender Notice Through e-Procurement Portal)

Unitwar Tender is invited in two cover system through e-procurement portal from interested Forest Contractors having 05 (five) years of experience for total 24 Advance Works under AOA, RSP, DDF, CAMPA Scheme of Approx. total Rs. 123.25 lakhs (CALL - 2) and total 08 Advance Works under KFDF & CANE Scheme of Approx. total Rs. 66.0555 lakhs (CALL - 1) in the limits of various forest zones of Sagar Division for the year 2025-26. Last date for submission of Tender is fixed as: 04.09.2025 up to 5.05 PM for (CALL - 2) and 04.09.2025 up to 5.20 PM for (CALL - 1). Complete details of works and places are explained in the e-Procurement Portal. For further information this office can be contacted and details regarding the Tender can be obtained from the official website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests, Hosanagara Sub Division, Hosanagara.
DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/104/08/789

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
KSHIP
KARNATAKA STATE HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
Project Implementation Unit, Karnataka State Highways Improvement Project
K R Circle, Bengaluru – 560 001. Tele: 2212 6758/59/61 e-mail:piukship@gmail.com

No. PIU:KSHIP-III/ADB/NCB **Date : 22.08.2025**
Tender Notification No:11/2025-26, Dtd 22.08.2025

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (Short Term Tender- Call 2)

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Project Director, Project Implementation Unit, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project, Bengaluru invites bids for below mentioned package works under KSHIP –III (ADB Loan No.3619 IND) in Single stage-two cover system. The tenderers may submit tenders for the work given in the table through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of the Government of Karnataka (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).

1	Name of the Work	**Package No. BSI 4: Road Safety Improvement works for additional 10 No's blackspots in South and Central zone PWD roads in Karnataka**
2	Construction Period	5 months
3	Bid document available for downloading in E-procurement portal	Date: 25.08.2025 Time: 15:00 Hours onwards
4	Last date for Submitting Pre-bid Queries	Date: 02.09.2025 up to Time: 11:30 Hours
5	Time and date of Pre-bid meeting	Date: 02.09.2025 Time: 11:30 Hours (O/o Project Director, KSHIP, Bangalore)
6	Last date for submission of Bids online	Date: 09.09.2025 Time: 16:00 Hours
7	Time and date of opening of bids online	Date: 11.09.2025 Time: 16:30 Hours

Any information about the works can be obtained from the O/o The Project Director, Project Implementation Unit, Karnataka State Highway Improvement Project, Bengaluru during office hours on all working days and also through support@eprochelpdesk.com KPP Portal helpdesk telephone nos are +91-8046010000/+91-8068948777.

Sd/-
Project Director
PIU, KSHIP, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/YC/2436/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client, Miss Ashwini Seetharam D/o Late Sri. Seetharam Karkal, R/a No.1130, 18th Main,1st Stage,5th Block, HBR Layout, Bengaluru 560043 is the sole & **absolute owner of the below mentioned Schedule Property.** Further my client has misplaced/lost the **Original Allotment Letter and Possession Certificate** issued by the Society in respect of below mentioned Schedule Property & to that effect,she has lodged Online police (Bengaluru City) complaint on 20-8-2025 (Lost report No. 1761406/2025). Any finder/or any person/s having any type of claim, may kindly return the above mentioned Original document or file objections to the undersigned within Seven (7) days from the date of notice failing which, my client shall presume that the same is lost and shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims/interest whatsoever from any person/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential Site No.**62** in the layout formed by the Karnataka Income Tax Depar tment House Building Co-operative Society Ltd, in Sy. No. 48/9, 48/12,48 (P),54/1 & 79 of Nagarbhavi Village, Yeshwantpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring EW: 30 feet & NS: 40.5 feet, totally measuring 1215 sq. ft, E-Aasthi PID No. 2601353484 assigned by BBMP Ward No. 128 (Nagarabhavi) and bounded on the:

East by : Site No. 61,
West by : Site No. 63,
North by : Private Layout,
South by : Road.

Harsha C. Mensinakai
Advocate, No. 126, 3rd E Cross, Kasturinagar, Bangalore 560 043.
Harshamensinakai@gmail.com

Government of Jharkhand
Directorate of Food & Consumer Affairs
3rd Floor, JSFC Bhawan, Kadru, Ranchi -834002

Reverse e-Auction Procurement Notice through GeM Portal

Letter No.-kha.up.ni.-24/chini-01/2025-**1395** Date :-22-08-2025

For Supply of Free Flow White Crystal Sugar (Grade-S-30/M-30) (As Per FSSAI Norms) for 4th Quarter (January 2025 to March 2025) of Financial Year 2024-25 By e-Tender Through E-Bid Followed By Reverse Auction on GeM Platform.

Bid Details	
GeM Bid No.	GEM/2025/B/6598366 Dated: 22-08-2025
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 24,84,000/- (Twenty Four Lakh Eighty Four Thousand) as EMD in form of demand draft in favor of Director, Directorate of Food and Consumer Affairs, Jharkhand or in following bank details through online Bank Transfer from any nationalized or scheduled bank in India : Bank Name - Indian Bank, Branch - Ashok Nagar, Ranchi, A/C No. - 7876502276, IFSC - IDIB000A662
Tender Publishing Date/ Download Link of Tender Document	22-08-2025/ Through https://www.jharkhand.gov.in/food and https://gem.gov.in
Last Date and time of Bid Submission	08-09-2025 upto 01:00 pm
Online Bid Submission Period	From 22-08-2025 to 08-09-2025
Pre-Bid Meeting	26-08-2025 at 01:00 pm through google meet (https://meet.google.com/gkf-rjzk-aah)
Date of Auction	Will be published after technical evaluation
Name and concerned person for Correspondence	Mr. Dilip Tirkey Mobile no.- 9470520458 , email- directorfood18@gmail.com

sd/- Director
(Directorate of Food & Consumer Affairs)
PR.NO.360201 Directorate of Food and Consumer Affairs(25-26):D

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PREETI spouse of BALRAM resident of Ground Floor, Jayamma complex Hosahalli Road Kodagalahatti, Bangalore –562157 have changed my name from PREETI to PREETI RANI vide Affidavit dated 13/08/2025 before Notary S. R. Ravikumar, Bengaluru.

I, Huvaji S/o Mallikarjun R/o 22/2 Srimurari Grand Apt G-003 3rd Cross Basapura Main Ec Phase 1 B'lore 560100 have changed my name to Huvaji Kalal for all purposes.

I NO: 8037577P RANK NK Name Prabhu J resident of at house No: 148, 4th Cross Mohalla Nagappa block, Sriram Puram Post office Devaiah Park Police Station Sriram Puram Teh & Dist Bangalore State Karnataka Pin: 560021 have changed my son Name from Mudith P to P. Vedhas and his Date of Birth is 26 October 2024 for all purpose vide Affidavit Date 18 August 2025 before Notary L.N.Dimri Certificate No IN-UK13221124762619X

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANNIRUDH PRAKASH DESAI alias Anirudh Prakash Desai S/o Prakash Hareesh Desai R/o–16/1003 Suncity Apartments Sarjapur Outer Ring Road Iblur Bangalore Karnataka–560102 changed my name to ANIRUDH PRAKASH DESAI.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I, SMT. Rathanamma, W/o. V. Muniramu, do hereby informs to the general public that I have lost the original Absolute Sale Deed bearing document No. KRI–1–18856–2004–05, Stored in CD No. KRID76, registered in the Sub Registrar office Krishnarajapuram, dated 08–10–2004. I have filed an FIR regarding the lost document bearing FIR No. 1760167/2025. Incase if anyone traces or found the original document please contact 9686484443, Email : raghurakesh09@gmail.com, Sworn before Notary Advocate : Chandrashekar Y R.

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Gowri–Ganesha: Festivals of Devotion, Prosperity, and Togetherness

The Gowri Habba and Ganesh Chaturthi festivals are two of India's most popular and culturally observed festivals, celebrated with regard, happiness, and splendour. Celebrated across Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu, these twin festivities reflect the rich cultural synthesis of tradition and modernity that characterizes Indian celebrations. At their core is the adoration of Goddess Gowri, a representation of vigour, wealth, and female strength, and her son Lord Ganesha, remover of hurdles, patron of insight, and bearer of auspicious beginnings.

The Divine Significance of Gowri–Ganesha

The festivities start with Gowri Habba, celebrated on the night before Ganesh Chaturthi. The devotees receive Goddess Gowri into their homes with rituals that mark welcoming health, prosperity, and well-being. Women traditionally perform special poojas, adorn kalashas with turmeric and vermilion.

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated the next day, when beautifully carved idols of Lord Ganesha are placed at homes and public pandals. The ceremonies start with Consecration, calling in the presence of the deity into the idol, and then the chanting of Vedic mantras, devotional bhajans, and offering sweets, particularly the favourite modaka, which is Ganesha's preferred sweet. While homes are wafted with incense fragrance, the beat of aartis, and the warmth of family bonding, the festival is an expression of faith, devotion, and joy in unison.

The Cultural Spirit of the Festival

Aside from religious connotation, Gowri–Ganesha is an integral part of people's cultural existence. Families gather, neighbours greet and offer sweets, and whole towns are filled with vibrant pandals, music, and folk dances. For some, the festival is a time of rejuvenation and bonding—an occasion to break away from routine, reconnect with family and friends, and rejoice in common tradition that has been transmitted through generations.

Food is the essence of the festival. Besides the traditional modakas and kadubus, families indulge in a rich assortment of laddus, payasa, chaklis, and banter-filled meals served on banana leaves. These meals are as much gastronomic treats as they are sacrosanct naivedya to the gods before being shared with family and friends, signifying prosperity and togetherness.

Festive Shopping: Bringing Home the Spirit

As with all Indian festivals, buying and selling is at the heart of Gowri–Ganesha. Bazaars are filled with the devout purchasing fresh flowers, coconuts, betel leaves, rice, lentils, jaggery, and bright rangoli powders needed for poojas. Ganesha idols—ranging from plain clay objects to beautifully ornamented ones—take pride of place in homes. Increasingly, households are turning to environmentally friendly clay idols, that are painted with natural paints and biodegradable ornaments.

The dress code is also significant. Women dress themselves in luxurious silk sarees and temple jewellery, men opt for kurta–pyjamas or dhotis, while the children dress up in bright ethnic clothes, all contributing to the festive atmosphere. In most houses, purchasing gold, silver, or temple jewellery is regarded as extremely auspicious during the festival, symbolizing the belief that Goddess Gowri promises good fortune. Even minor purchases—such as bangles, chains, or ear studs—are regarded as symbols of divine favour.

The shopping is not just a ritual but also lifestyle enhancements. Retailers launch festive promotions on electronics, home appliances, and kitchenware, inviting families to update their homes. Ranging from cookware sets and brass lamps to smart devices and dining sets, the concept of a "festive-ready home" has become prominent, making the celebration sound not only spiritually but also practically fulfilling.

Eco-Sensitive Celebrations: Faith with Responsibility

Over the last few decades, the environmental cost of mass celebrations has become increasingly topical. The sinking of plaster-of-paris (PoP) idols painted with artificial paints has brought rivers, lakes, and marine life irreparable harm. Aware of this, families, communities, and governments alike are actively encouraging green Ganeshas.

- Clay Idols dissolve easily in water without causing any toxic residue.
- Seed Ganeshas, planted with plant seeds, convert visarjane into renewal, growing into saplings that represent renewal and sustainability.
- Paper Mache Ganeshas provide a light, eco-friendly option painted with natural pigments.
- Terracotta Ganeshas are durable and can be reused, suited for those who want to keep the idol year after year.

School-workshops, eco-clubs, and NGOs urge kids to shape their own idols from clay, teaching them values of sustainability from childhood. Eco-friendly idols and puja kits are now available online and supplied directly to homes, while NGOs establish local centres to distribute seed and clay idols within communities. The trend indicates an increasing awareness that devotion is not just in worship but in safeguarding the earth as well.

Tradition Meets Modernity

The Gowri–Ganesha festival has successfully evolved to the contemporary era without sacrificing its core. Distantly located families conduct rituals with digital aartis and virtual pooja streaming, and devotion remains boundaryless. Urban societies stage cultural events, talent hunts, and social events like food donation camps, blood donation camps, and environment awareness rallies, making the festival a celebration cum social cause.

For the young generation, the festival is not merely about rituals but also about reconnecting with heritage, hearing tales from grandparents, helping parents prepare traditional food, and adorning homes with imagination and joy. The celebrations, therefore, become a living bridge between generations, upholding faith and culture in new avatars.

A Celebration of Togetherness

At its core, Gowri–Ganesha is not just a festival—it is a celebration of life. It's about family ties, the bliss of community, the sharing of gifts and sweets, the beat of rituals, and the harmony of faith. It reiterates age-old values of devotion, gratitude, and shared delight, reminding us that although traditions move with time, their spirit never fades.

While the air is filled with the resounding chants of "Ganapati Bappa Morya" and houses are lit up with lamps and laughter, the Gowri–Ganesha festival still stands for the indissoluble relationship between the divine and the votive—a sign that religion, when celebrated with love and duty, does not only usher in prosperity but also friendship with nature and with one another

C. Krishniah Chetty Group presents SriVari Pancha Roopa, a limited edition collectible handcrafted in 925 silver, inspired by Lord Venkateshwara of Tirumala. Rooted in sacred tradition, this ensemble reflects rituals passed down through generations and embodies the grace of Kaliyuga's Pratyaksha Daivam. This sacred set features the five eternal forms of the Lord, known as Pancha Beralu, from the Self manifested Dhruva berum, Snapana berum, Kautuka berum, Bali berum to the celebrated Utsava berum, each holding deep spiritual significance. Hanuman and Garuda, His eternal devotees, stand in reverence. A mystical triangle connects the divine energies of Moolavirat, Vimana Venkateshwara, and Anantha Padmanabha, echoing the sacred journey every pilgrim undertakes, and a beautifully crafted, hand-painted artwork of Tirumala hill, whose natural silhouette is said to resemble the divine face of Lord Venkateshwara.

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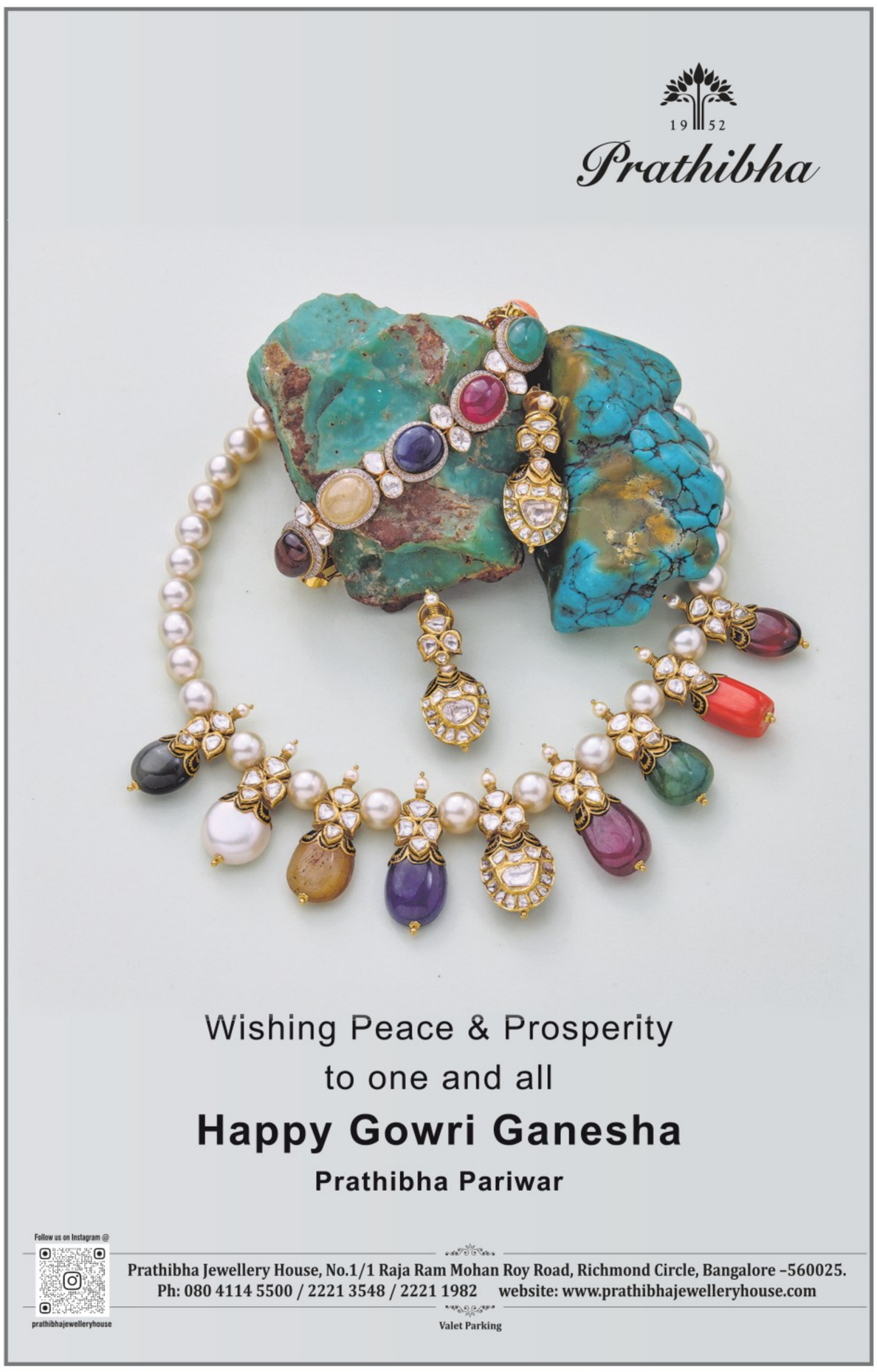

Centres set up to obtain permission for idol installation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has created 75 single-window centres to obtain permission for Ganesha idol installation, and has identified 41 lake premises and 489 mobile tankers for idol immersion.

The BBMP said organisers can visit its website to obtain more details about the arrangements.

"For the immersion of Ganesha idols, arrangements have been made in all wards for 41 permanent/temporary kalyanis located on lake premises, as well as 489 temporary mobile tankers," the BBMP said. Nodal officers have been appointed for the supervision and coordination of the idol immersion process.

Clay idols struggle for space, lag behind PoP ones

While clay idols are priced anywhere between ₹400 and ₹750 for a one-foot Ganesha, the painted PoPs are readily available for as low as ₹150

Priyanka Vaadulasha
BENGALURU

As the countdown for Ganesha Chaturthi festival begins, the lanes of Pottery Town, Basavanagudi, and Shivajinagar in Bengaluru are bustling with idol workers operating overtime. But behind the colourful façade, the sale of traditional clay idol still lags behind those made of plaster of Paris (PoP), despite the civic body slapping a ban on the manufacture and sale of PoP sculptures.

While clay idols are priced anywhere between ₹400 and ₹750 for a one-foot Ganesha, the painted PoPs are readily available for as low as ₹150.

Lord Ganesha idols kept on the Bore Bank road in Bengaluru on Friday ahead of Ganesha Festival. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

GANESHA CHATURTHI - 2025

Customised idols

On top of it, the increased demand from buyers to get idols customised to their preferences pushes many idol makers to opt for PoP as their choice of material. "The clay is always valuable, but we need to learn the ability to look past its drawbacks," said Suresh B.R., a fourth-generation potter working in the lanes of Pottery Town. For years, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) has discouraged the use of PoP idols, imposing fines and urging citizens to adopt eco-friendly alternatives. However, multiple challenges persist. "The availability of suitable clay is scarce. The raw materials are brought from almost 200 km away from the city, and each load demands a hefty expenditure of ₹15,000," said Mr. Suresh. The huge PoP sculpture-manufacturing units located on the outskirts of the city undermine efforts to make clay idols mainstream.

> The raw materials are brought from almost 200 km away from the city, and each load demands a hefty expenditure of ₹15,000
> **SURESH B.R.**
> Fourth-generation potter

"PoP idols flood the markets overnight, just before the festival day, leaving little room for clay idols to compete," said Aravindh, a sixth-generation potter. He explains how the production of these eco-friendly sculptures is distinct and painstaking compared to that of PoP sculptures.

"After a year-round toil, a potter makes around 3,000 to 4,000 clay idols. A lot of time goes into drying and doing the refining work. Whereas 10,000 POP idols can be made in a month," Mr. Aravindh said.

Cheaper alternative

A retail owner on the lanes of Gandhi Bazaar admits that although he sells the clay idols in the initial weeks, he shifts to PoP as the festival approaches. "It is hard to keep selling eco-friendly goods to customers when they can find a cheaper alternative at the next shop," he remarks. According to the retailer, although officials regularly check for PoP sculptures along the lanes, the sales continue to take place. However, there are more takers for idols made of sustainable materials among the city's younger crowds, notes Krishnamurty, owner of Dasara Dolls, at Basavanagudi.

"The older generations are still inclined to buy the coloured PoP sculptures. However, there is increased awareness among the youngsters," he said. "We have always brought home clay idols because of our cultural beliefs and traditions that we followed for years," said Vidyavathi, a buyer at Kumbara Beedi, K.R. Puram.

On the other hand, Pramod Karthik, another customer, said, "PoP idols offer a lot of variety and even options for customisation. Every year, the idol we bring home looks different than the one we had before."

Committee visits HAL

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence visited the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) facilities here on Friday. The 10-member committee, led by its Chairman and MP Radha Mohan Singh, visited the Helicopter Division, LCA Tejas Division, and Aircraft Division.

HAL showcased a flying display of HAL fighter aircraft LCA Mk 1A, trainers Hindustan Turbo Trainer 40, Hindustan Jet Trainer 'Yashas' and Hawk-i, and helicopters Dhruv ALH and Light Utility Helicopter.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby notified that **Sri.Subbakrishna.K** aged about 44 years, S/o Late.M.N.Krishnamurthy, residing at No.8, 4th Main, Venkatappa Layout, RMV 2nd Stage, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore -94 is the owner of the Schedule Property described infra.

It is represented that the original Sale Deed dated 12.02.1981 executed by Smt. Puttamma rep by her GPA holder Sri. Venkatappa in favour of Sri.H.S. Saarangapani and registered as doc no. 16165/80-81, in Book-I, entered in pages 201 to 202, Volume- SF 3424, at the office of Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore is lost/ misplaced. In this connection, an E-complaint bearing lost report no. 1760572/ 2025 has been lodged on 20.08.2025 at Police Unit:Bangalore City.

The finder of the document is requested to surrender the Sale deed to the undersigned within **10 days** from this day, failing which, it shall be deemed that the original Sale deed is irretrievably lost and certified copy of the same shall be obtained from the office of Sub-Registrar of Assurances in lieu of lost original for the purpose of records.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of site bearing No.6, comprised in carved out of land bearing Sy no.26, Geddalahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore admeasuring East to West : 30 ft., and North to South : 50 ft., and bounded as follows: On the **East by:** Site bearing no.7, **West by:** Site bearing no.5, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Private property

Bangalore
Date : 22.08.2025

Ashwini, Advocate,
Pallavi & Associates,
#11, " Kempu Honnu",
Rathna Villas Road, Basavanagudi,
Bangalore-560 004

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, SWD, Bommanahalli Zone, BBMP, 9th Floor, Jayanagara Shopping Complex, 4th Block, Jayanagara, Bengaluru - 560 011.

No. EE/SWD/BOM/TEND/04/2025-26 Date: 22.08.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)-5th Call

Two Cover System (Only through GoK KPP Portal)

The Executive Engineer, SWD, Bommanahalli Zone, BBMP, Bengaluru on behalf the Commissioner, BBMP invites Tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / National Highway or any State Govt. Organisations for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. value of work (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Culvert across Subramanyapura Main road for SWD outlet drain in Bengaluru South.	58.65	1,17,303/-

Calendar of Events: **(1)** Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 25.08.2025. (2)** Date of Pre-bid meeting : **03.09.2025 upto 4.00 pm. (3)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders : **09.09.2025 upto 4.00 pm. (4)** Date of opening of bid : **11.09.2025 at 4.30 pm. (5)** Date of opening of Financial bid : **will be intimated to technically qualified contractor.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or from KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Storm Water Drain Bommanahalli Zone, BBMP

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY **SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS**

TENDER NOTICE No: S/2025/112 **"THROUGH E- PROCUREMENT TENDERS"** Date: 20.08.2025

The Principal Chief Material Manager, North Western Railway, headquarter 3rd floor, Near Jawahar circle, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur-302017 for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tenders on www.ireps.gov.in site as follows. All the E- tenders will be closed at 14.25 hrs.

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty	Unit	Due Date
1	50255217	Supply of SMPS based IPS¾	66	Nos.	11.09.2025
2	65245033	Design, manufacture, supply, installation, testing, commissioning and proving of Airless Centrifugal Shot Blasting/Peening plant for coil spring	01	Nos.	15.09.2025
3	82251830	Human albumin 20% Inj. 100 ML Bottle	2124	Nos.	11.09.2025
4	82254581	INJ. PERTUZUMAB 420MG / 14ML	42	Nos.	18.09.2025
5	82254336B	INJ. CETUXIMAB 500 MG	200	Nos.	15.09.2025
6	30253069	Speed Sensor G 16to KBI	449	Nos.	17.09.2025
7	65255011	Automatic folder with stacker & automatic feeder for mechanized laundry.	06	Nos.	01.10.2025
8	40251767	Disconnecting And Earthing Device	124	Nos.	16.09.2025
9	30253174	Overhauling Kit For Dump Valve	622	Set	23.09.2025
10	30253392	Brake Cylinder	29	Set	22.09.2025

CORRIGENDUM

S.No	Tender No	Nit No	Description	Amendment	TOD Existing	TOD Revised
1	20255002	S/2025/110 Dt.06.08.2025	Existing	Item Description/NIT Condition Modified, Some NIT Condition Added and documents added/deleted	———	———

Note (1) Interested tenderers may visit the website ireps.gov.in for Full details/description/Specification/EMD & tender cost etc. All tenderers are requested to obtain digital signatures and get them registered on above site and quote electronically only. (2) For viewing and participating in other tenders such as open tender costing below Rs. 50 Lakh, limited tenders, special limited tenders and low value tenders, please visit www.ireps.gov.in

1038-PS/25

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BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

Tender Notice No. PCE/BLW(ET)/Publish/2025-26/07 **Date: 20.08.2025**

E-Tender

Dy. Chief Engineer, Banaras Locomotive Works, Varanasi on behalf of the President of India invites "Open" Tender through E-Tendering from the contractors. **SN:** 1; **Tender No.:** BLW-WAT-ET-014-25-26; **Name of Work:** Repair work in INTER COLLEGE under SSE/W/WT & Provision for Electrification of BLW Inter College BLW, Varanasi; **Tender Cost:** Rs. 1,85,70,755.50; **Earnest Money:** Rs. 2,42,900.00; **Time of Completion:** 12 Months; **Closing Date of Tender:** 19/09/2025 at 15:00 PM; **Date of Opening of Tender:** 19/09/2025 at 15:30 PM. **Special Notice:** To see the detailed terms & conditions of tender and for submission of tender, please visit website: **http:www.ireps.gov.in**.

PRO/BLW/C-07 **Dy. Chief Engineer**

/blwvaranasi **Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in**

NOTICE OF LOSS OF SHARE CERTIFICATES

Notice is hereby given that the following share certificates issued by ASM TECHNOLOGIES LTD are stated to have been lost or misplaced and the registered share holder applied for issue of duplicate share certificates.

FOLIO NO.	REGISTERED SHARE HOLDER	CERTIFICATE NO.	DISTINCTIVE NOS FROM	DISTINCTIVE NOS TO	EQUITY SHARES
ASM004039	REGI RAZAK	20335	2023401	2023500	100
		20336	2023501	2023600	100

Any person who has/have a claim in respect of the said certificates should lodge his/her/their claim with all supporting documents with the company or Kfin Technologies Ltd, Selenium Tower B, Plot 31-32, Gachibowli, Financial District, Hyderabad – 500032. If no valid and legitimate claim is received within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, the Company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificates to the shareholder listed above and no further claim would be entertained from any other person(s).

Date: 23.08.2025 REGI RAZAK
Place: Ernakulam Name of the shareholder

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

E- Auction Notification

Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd Announces E- Auction of Commercial Contracts, published on IREPS e-tendering system as per the following schedule.

Sr. No.	Name of Contract	No. of Contracts / Lots	Date and Time of E-auction
1	Leasing of SLR – Train No. 20112,10104,22907	03	25.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
2	Advertisement at Railway stations through Advertisement Boards, Hoardings at stations at Sawantwadi Road, Thivim and Madgaon	03	25.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
3	Pay parking at Asnoti, Ankola.	02	26.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
4	Display of Advertisements inside train - Madgaon -Mangalore Central-Madgaon (10107/10108) Memu train and Diva – Sawantwadi Road passenger (10105/10106)	02	26.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
5	Display of Advertisements exterior train–Diva – Sawantwadi Road passenger (10105/10106), Diva – Ratnagiri passenger (50104/50103) ,Konkan kanya Exp (20112-20111), Mandovi Exp (10104-10103)	03	27.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
6	Parcel Scanner at Madgaon	01	27.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
7	Commercial Publicity through Video Screens on Station Premises at KARMALI,KARWAR	02	28.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
8	Advertisements through Hoardings near Road Under Bridge / Road Over Bridge– Maharashtra, Karnataka	08	29.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs
8	Fare repeater @ stations – Mangaon, Sangmeshwar, Vaibhavwadi Road,Sindhudurg, Karwar, Kumta, Kundapura, Bhatkal	8	30.08.2025 at 11:00 hrs

For queries please contact: **1.** Shri. Pravin Daware, **Mob. No.**: 9004470597. **2.** Shri. Vinay Gaonkar, **Mob. No.**: 9004476129. **3.** Shri. Madhukumar Shetty, **Mob. No.**: 9004476082. For more details, please visit the website at **www.ireps.gov.in**

श्रम संसाधन विभाग
बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन, नियोजन भवन, बेली रोड, पटना बिहार।

बिहार सरकार

बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन के अंतर्गत State Skill Competition Consultant (SSCC) की सेवा लिये जाने हेतु अभ्यर्थियों के चयन सम्बन्धी विज्ञापन

बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन, श्रम संसाधन विभाग नियोजन भवन, बेली रोड पटना बिहार के अंतर्गत **State Skill Competition Consultant (SSCC)** की सेवा जो किसी मान्यता प्राप्त कौशल, प्रक्षेत्र या तकनीकी विषय में अनुभवी हो तथा राष्ट्रीय स्तर की न्यूनतम दो (02) राष्ट्रीय कौशल प्रतियोगिताओं में एक्सपर्ट (Expert) अथवा ज्यूरी सदस्य (Jury Member) के रूप में कार्य किया हो। ऐसे अभ्यर्थियों की मानदेय के आधार पर मिशन में सेवा लेने हेतु सचिव, श्रम संसाधन विभाग, नियोजन भवन, पंचम तल, ए ब्लॉक, आयकर गोलंबर के नजदीक, बेली रोड, पटना बिहार–800001 के पते पर आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किया जाता है। सेवा हेतु अभ्यर्थियों के चयन की विस्तृत विवरणी बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन के वेबसाईट–**www.skillmissionbihar.org** से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। आवेदन दिनांक–31.08.2025 को अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन के कार्यालय में रजिस्टर्ड डाक या स्पीड पोस्ट या ईमेल **(biharskilldevelopmentmission@gmail.com with subject line: Application for State Skill Competition Consultant)** के माध्यम से प्राप्त किया जायेगा। विलंब अथवा त्रुटिपूर्ण आवेदन के लिए बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन उत्तरदायी नहीं होगा, साथ ही इसपर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।

विस्तृत जानकारी **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

मिशन निदेशक
बिहार कौशल विकास मिशन
श्रम संसाधन विभाग
नियोजन भवन, बेली रोड, पटना बिहार

PR- 012451 (L R D) 2025-26 **नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।**

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE
AGRAM - POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677 | Website: www.apsasc.edu.in

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed quotations are invited for Nilkamal Chairs at **Army Public School ASC Centre & College (APS ASC C&C).** Tender Enquiry/Form (also uploaded on website www.apsasc.edu.in (procurement) for reference) can be collected from school office after payment of **Rs.250/- (Demand Draft in favour of APS ASC C&C) from 23 Aug 2025 to 28 Aug 2025 (1000hrs to 1300hrs). Last date and time to submit filled tender form is 29 Aug 2025 at 1130 hrs.**

Presiding Officer
For School Management

LOST OF DOCUMENT NOTICE

I **G. Swapna** residing at No.29/25, Astalakshmi layout, J.P. Nagar 6th phase, Bangalore-560078. Have lost my original property deed for the property situated at No. 23/1/5/3/938, Gollahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, document no.5435/2012-13, I have also lodged a complaint at Bangalore City Police Station. Any one who found this document, please return to the above address. Any person or institution dealing with the document will be doing so at their own risk.

Contact : 9148766923

ಪುರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ
ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. ದೂ: 08227–261232
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: itstaff_ulb_tnarasipura@yahoo.com
ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.tmarasipuratown.gov.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಪುಸ/ತಿನಪುರ/ಕಿಆ/ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಎಫ್‌ಸಿ&15ನೇ ಹ.ಯೋ/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 21.08.2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ ಪುರಸಭಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್.ಎಫ್.ಸಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಅನುದಾನ, 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್‌ಎಫ್‌ಸಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ವಿವಿಧ ಸಾಲುಗಳ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು, Trommel screen ಯಂತ್ರ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು, ಬಾಬು ಜಗಜೀವನರಾಂ ಸಂಘಕ್ಕೆ ಊಟದ ಟೇಬಲ್ ಮತ್ತು ಚೇರ್ ಖರೀದಿಸಿ ನೀಡಲು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಾಲ್ತಿ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ 4ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ, 3ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರಿಂದ KW-1, KG-1, KG-2, KW-2 & KW-3 ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಅನ್ವಯ ಹಾಗೂ 1999 ಹಾಗೂ 2000ರ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರರು http://kppp.karnataka.gov.inನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಷರತ್ತು ಹಾಗೂ ದಾಸ್ತಾವೇಜ್‌ನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

1. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಡೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:08–09–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ**
2. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10–09–2025 ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ಅಥವಾ ಮುಂದೆ ಸೂಚಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT47953 (SC)	45.00	38150
2	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47951	60.00	101700
3	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47950	40.00	67800
4	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47949(Cat-IIA)	60.00	50900
5	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47948	55.00	93220
6	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47947 (ST)	55.00	46650
7	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47946	50.00	84740
8	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47945 (Cat-IIA)	50.00	42370
9	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47944 (Cat-IIA)	70.00	59350
10	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47943	60.00	101700
11	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47941 (SC)	50.00	42400
12	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47940	50.00	84750
13	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47939	50.00	84740
14	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47938 (SC)	60.00	50850
15	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47917	45.00	76270
16	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT47898	60.00	101690
17	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48006 (Cat-IIA)	1.31	1650
18	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48005	0.66	1650
19	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48004 (SC)	3.58	4475
20	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48003 (SC)	1.20	1500
21	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT48002	3.00	7500
22	DMA/2025-26/IND5145	65.00	130000
23	DMA/2025-26/IND5250	1.35	3370
24	DMA/2025-26/IND5251	20.00	40000
25	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44254/CALL-2	3.00	7500
26	DMA/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT44258/CALL-2	3.00	7500
27	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44261/CALL-2	3.00	7500
28	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44265/CALL-2	3.00	7500
29	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44275/CALL-2	1.34	3350
30	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44838/CALL-2	3.00	7500
31	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44844/CALL-2	1.13	2813
32	DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT44845/CALL-2	1.15	2875
33	DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT17041/CALL-3	1.21	3025
34	DMA/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT17043/CALL-2	88.66	150200
35	DMA/2024-25/IND4301/CALL-2	60.00	120000

ಸೂಚನೆ: 1) ಕಾರಣಾಂತರಗಳಿಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ
ಸಹಿ/– ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ
ಸಹಿ/– ಸ್ಥಾಯಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ
ಸಹಿ/– ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ

DIPR/MYS/842/SA/2025-26

KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Almatti-586201. Tq:Nidagundi Dt: Vijayapur.
Phone:08426-281027 E-mail:dam_division@rediffmail.com

No: KBJNL/DDA/DB/TND/2025-26/1444 Dated:20.08.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore the undersigned invites tender on Item Rate basis from the eligible contractors for the work indents of **Two Cover** - I .No. 2400 (CAT-IIA)/CALL-2- 63.41 Lakhs, & **Single Cover - P**ercentage tender basis from the eligible contractors for the work indents of (1) I .No. 2282/ Call-3 (Others)- 5.06 Lakhs, (2) I .No. 2151/Call-3 (Others)- 4.40 Lakhs. (3) I .No. 2466 (CAT-II(A)- 3.94 Lakhs .(4) I .No. 2276/Call-2 (Others)- 6.75 Lakhs , (5) I .No. 1716 (Others)- 15.33 Lakhs **The contractor can have access and submit e-tender from 22.08.2025 to 02.09.2025 up to 5-00 PM. Cover-I (Technical & Financial) Bid will be opened on 04.09.2025 at 11-00AM for Single covers & For Two Covers Technical Bid will be opened on Dt: 04.09.2025 & Financial Bid Opened on Dt: 06.09.2025** at the Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Almatti. For clarifications office of the undersigned may be contacted during office hours (Phone No. 08426-281027). Further information about electronic tendering can be had from kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, Dam Division, Almatti

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/283/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Vijayanagar Division, 1st Floor, Shasakara Bhavan, 3rd Main Road, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560040

No: EE(VJN)/AE/KPPP/06/2025-26 **Date: 22-08-2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION - (SHORT TERM)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Vijayanagara Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations for the Construction of works detailed below.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-3)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category
1	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains and Other Allied Works in Block No. 12, 13, 15, 16, 62 & 14-1 Division at Vijayanagara Sub Division. **(Others) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 100.00, EMD (in Rs.): Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rs. 1.00 Lakh through e-Procurement Portal & the Balance Rs. 1,00,000/- shall be in the form of Bank Guarantee / FD)**
2	Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains and Other Allied Works in Block No. 76, 115, 116, 121, 143, 14-2, 130-1, 130-2 & 131-1 at Gali Anjaneya Sub Division. **(Others) - Approximated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs): 100.00, EMD (in Rs.): Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rs. 1.00 Lakh through e-Procurement Portal & the Balance Rs. 1,00,000/- shall be in the form of Bank Guarantee / FD)**

Calendar of Events: **1)** Tender documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **08-09-2025 at 15.00 Hours. 3)** Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **12-09-2025 upto 16.00 Hours. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid: **15-09-2025 at 11.30 Hours. 5)** Date of Opening Financial Bid: **Will be intimated through e-Procurement.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Vijayanagara Division, BBMP.

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In a first, panel to use domestic electricity connection to draw up list of households in State

Earlier surveys, including that of SCs for internal quota, have relied on census data and voter list

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

For the first time in the country, which can possibly become a model for other surveys, the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes will draw up a list of households in the State using the domestic electricity connection.

The commission's decision comes amidst an uproar over the sanctity of the voters' list drawn up by the Election Commission of India.

The listing of households is an important exercise before the commission takes up the second socio-educational survey (popularly called the caste census) of the State's seven crore population in September. According to an estimate, there are over two crore power connections, and the meter readers will enable the commission to segregate domestic/household connections from commercial ones, and domestic installations having double meters.

The Justice H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission had used the 2011 Census data and interfaced it with the voters' list during the recent survey of Scheduled Castes' households.

'Hue and cry'

"We are not going to use the voters' list because there is a lot of hue and cry about it. Unfortunately, the 2011 Census data is too old. Making a list of households from electricity connections is being done for the first time in the country. The Centre has declared Karnataka as a 100% electricity-connected State. We are evolving our data from Saturday," commission's chairman Madhusudan R. Naik, who is overseeing the survey preparations, told *The Hindu*.

The listing of households is an important exercise before the Election Commission takes up the second socio-educational survey of Karnataka in September. FILE PHOTO

CASTE CENSUS

He said that provisions are made not to miss out those households that do not have electricity connections. "We will be checking various other secondary data such as ration cards and Aadhaar to cover the entire population."

The second survey will be held between September 22 and October 7. The first survey was conducted in 2015 by the H. Kantharaj Commission, the report of which was submitted by the K. Jayaprakash Hegde Commission in 2024. However, since the report is 10 years old, the government favoured a fresh survey.

Mr. Naik said that the estimated number of households with electricity connections in Karnataka is about 1.7 crore. "Meter readers will geo tag each of the households during the meter-reading exercise. Each reader has, on an average, 3,000 meters to cover during a monthly cycle that lasts over a week," he said.

Through an app

An app developed by the e-Governance Department will be downloaded on the meter reader's device, using which the location would be geo tagged, Mr. Naik said, adding that a sticker would be pasted to identify the house as being geo-tagged, while a unique number gets generated.

"Geo tagging is being done for the first time. Sample surveys have been conducted to test the system," Mr. Naik said.

Lingayats, Vokkaligas hold meetings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ahead of the re-enumeration of castes, the Akhila Bharata Veerashaiva-Lingayat Mahasabha and the Vokkaliga Sangha are holding meetings to ensure that the "real numbers" of the communities are reflected in the new survey.

The Mahasabha held a meeting here on Friday, chaired by Forest Minister Eshwar B. Khandre and attended by legislators from across parties, and resolved that they would stick to a common nomenclature as 'Lingayat' or 'Veerashaiva' under the religion column and mention subcastes in the relevent section.

The Vokkaliga Sangha has also urged its community members to declare themselves as 'Vokkaligas' in the appropriate column so as to not give any room for confusion.

Update your KYC
Keep your bank account active.
Visit your nearest Gram Panchayat camp
From 1st July to 30th September 2025
Documents needed to update KYC
• If there is no change in your personal details, a self-declaration is sufficient.
• If there is a change in your personal details, a copy of any one document containing the updated details is needed:
Aadhaar / Voter's ID card / NREGA job card / Driving licence / Passport / Letter issued by the National Population Register
You can update your KYC by visiting your nearest bank branch.
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Greetings of Gowri & Ganesha
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Prathibha Jewellery House
Legend among legends

Sakala Narasimhulu Chetty with Sons, Sharath Kumar & Murali Mohan. Grandson Sanjeev Mohan at the centre.

Sri Sakala Narasimhulu Chetty was groomed in the jewellery trade by his father-in-law Sri. Devatha Sreeramiah Chetty, a prominent jeweller of the time (circa 1940). The latter was the founder-president of the Bangalore Jewellers Association founded in 1941.

It was under his guidance, support and partnership that Mr. Chetty founded the 'Prathibha Jewellery House' brand in 1952, in a small premises measuring 7ft. by 20 ft. in Nagarathpet. a popular business hub off Avenue Road in Bengaluru at that time.

Mr. Chetty was drawn to the name 'Prathibha' ever since he read about it in Kalidasa's epic , 'Maalavikaagni Mitra' where Kalidasa expounds the meaning of the word as "Nava Navonmeshaa Vidya Prathibha" (the ability to create and innovate is called Prathibha). Thus, he named his first daughter as 'Prathibha' in 1945 and went on to name his business also by the same name in 1952.

Prathibha Jewellery subsequently moved to a bigger premises on Avenue Road, a property that was owned by Mr. Chetty's father-in-law. His two sons Mr. Sharath Kumar and Mr. Murali Mohan, both engineering graduates joined the business in 1967 and 1968 respectively, at which time his father-in-law retired from the partnership leaving Prathibha to be solely owned by Mr. Chetty and his two sons.

In the year 1977, Prathibha celebrated its Silver Jubilee by moving into its own building at Sakalajee Market on Avenue Road. Subsequently in its Golden Jubilee year in 2003, Prathibha was shifted to a spacious and luxurious showroom at Richmond Circle. Mr.Sanjeev Mohan, Mr. Chetty's grandson, a graduate gemologist from GIA, USA and also a business graduate from the Wharton School of Business , Philadelphia USA, joined the business in 2001.

The reason behind the brand's popularity is that it has never compromised on quality, design and finish of the jewellery it manufactures. It is well known that these attributes with impeccable service, is what any customer looks for, in a luxury brand. Above all, integrity in addition to reliability on a personal level prompts continuous patronage.

Today the brand commands business from hundreds of customers over three generations.

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Nandini outlet opened at Majestic Metro Station

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday inaugurated a new Nandini outlet at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda (Majestic) Metro Station, to give a boost to the State's flagship dairy brand.

Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) had in July requested the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to provide space for Nandini parlours in various metro stations.

D.K. Suresh, president of Bangalore Milk Union Ltd. (BAMUL), had met senior BMRCL officials to push the proposal. Sources in BMRCL confirmed that the KMF will soon set up Nandini outlets in at least five metro stations, while BAMUL has been asked to identify more locations.

The move comes after Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in June directed KMF to apply for BMRCL's tender for metro outlets, amid opposition criticism that the government was favouring Amul.

Amul was the only applicant in the earlier tender process and had secured permission to open outlets in 10 metro stations.

SWR introduces drone technology to optimise loading efficiency

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

The Hubballi Division of South Western Railway (SWR) has rolled out an innovative drone-based system to monitor and optimise goods loading operations at Ranjithpura station in Ballari district.

According to SWR officials, this is a first-of-its-kind initiative within the zone, aimed at enhancing safety, efficiency, and accuracy in freight handling.

The pilot project, which began on July 22 for a three-month trial period, focuses on the detection and correction of uneven loading of iron ore and iron ore pellets across five loading lines at the station. Of these, three are manual and two are mechanised.

The officials said the system uses cost-effective RGB technology to capture visual data and generate loading profiles.

Detect irregularities

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Manjunath Kanmadi, Chief Public Relations Officer of SWR said, "Post-loading images and videos are processed within 30 minutes and uploaded to a cloud-based application, enabling us to detect irregularities in real time. This data-driven approach minimises human error, allows for instant corrections, and provides a reliable record for future reference."

The project is also said to be a good initiative for its affordability, with the cost of implementation working out to just about ₹40 a wagon. In addition, the system incorporates AI-driven noise suppression filters, improving the clarity of data.

Accurate data

"The drone system at Ranjithpura is a significant step in adopting modern technology to improve operational safety and efficiency. It not only ensures that wagons are loaded uniformly, avoiding undue stress on rails and rolling stock, but also provides us with accurate data to streamline loading routines," Mr. Kanmadi said.

Reduce risks

The officials further noted that the new system would contribute to reducing risks associated with uneven loading, such as derailments and wear-and-tear of infrastructure. The availability of detailed loading profiles will also help in cross-checking during unusual incidents.

Mr. Kanmadi said that as of now, only this station under SWR is implemented with drone-based systems, and it is planned to extend to other loading stations also.

Chennai Expressway faces delays over land and clearance hurdles

P.C. Mohan says the project is now expected to be completed between December 2025 and March 2026

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari has confirmed that the ₹15,188 crore greenfield Expressway is facing multiple delays, especially land acquisition issues in Karnataka, environmental clearances, and blasting challenges near habitations in Tamil Nadu. FILE PHOTO

The 262-km Bengaluru-Chennai Expressway, designed to reduce travel time between the two cities to under three hours, has slowed down due to land acquisition hurdles, environmental clearances, and engineering challenges across Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu, the Union government has acknowledged.

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari, in a written reply to the Lok Sabha, has confirmed that the ₹15,188-crore greenfield expressway is facing multiple delays, especially land acquisition issues in Karnataka, and environmental clearances, and blasting challenges near habitations in Tamil Nadu.

Replying to the question asked by P.C. Mohan, Member of Parliament, Bangalore Central, on Thursday, Mr. Gadkari said land acquisition has been hampered by slow disbursement of compensation, missed valuation of trees and affected structures, as well as public resistance in Karnataka.

Demands for additional service roads and access from the main carriageway have contributed to delays. Shifting of religious structures and issues around compensating landowners for high-tension electricity lines have further added to the bottlenecks, the Union Minister said.

Wildlife, blasting

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr. Mohan said that since the project has faced several bottlenecks, it is now expected to be completed between December 2025 and March 2026. "In the coming days, I will discuss with the Karnataka government to clear various hurdles from the State's side and ensure that the work gains speed and progress," he added.

According to the reply by Mr. Gadkari, the project faced an initial setback in Andhra Pradesh as permissions were required from the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) for working within a 10-km eco-sensitive zone of the Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary.

Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu has posed its own set of challenges, with large-scale earthwork delays and the need for controlled blasting through over 7 km of hard rock near habitations.

Delay in RoB approval

In addition, delays in railway overbridge (ROB) approvals and financial constraints of the concessionaire for one package of Phase III have stalled progress, he stated.

Progress

According to data by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), while several packages of the project have already been completed, key stretches remain pending, with physical progress ranging from 53% to over 90%. The revised schedule by NHAI indicates that some sections, such as Bethamangala to Byreddypalli and Kancheepuram to Sriperumbudur, are slated for completion by December 2025, while the Byreddypalli to Bangarupalem and Arakkonam to Kancheepuram stretches may extend up to March 2026.

According to officials, of the 262-km stretch, around 71 km has already been completed. The portion that was finished became informally accessible to the public in December 2024.

The expressway is expected to serve as a major economic catalyst along its route, which runs from Hoskote in Karnataka to Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu. Once operational, it will provide a faster alternative to the existing 340-km route via Hosur, Krishnagiri, and Ranipet, which typically takes about six hours to cover.

We failed to control garbage mafia in city: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar speaking in the Legislative Assembly, in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

After declaring a few months ago that "even God cannot fix Bengaluru roads", Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who also holds the Bengaluru Development portfolio, told the Legislative Assembly on Friday that the State government has failed to control the garbage mafia in the city.

BJP too failed

"The BJP failed. We too failed to control the garbage mafia in Bengaluru city," he said, in a reply to the debate on the development in Bengaluru during the government's 27-month rule. Tenders have been called in packages in each Assembly constituency in the city to dispose of garbage, he said.

The Deputy Chief Minister said four locations in different parts of the city have been identified for the disposal of waste. He, along with officials, visited Delhi, Chennai, and Hyderabad to study waste disposal management. We did not go to Indore, which was declared as the cleanest city in the country, Mr. Shivakumar said.

On development of roads in the city, he said ₹9,200 crore would be spent on filling potholes, white-topping, LED lights, and other works. Already 5,377 potholes were filled, and another 5,000 would be filled soon. The police have been told to list the number of potholes in their police station limits. The public was also told to send videos of potholes, Mr. Shivakumar said.

Many low-lying areas would get flooded in the city during the monsoon. It was decided to evacuate those residing in low-lying areas by providing them compensation, and roads would be widened in those areas by investing ₹3,000 crore, the Deputy Chief Minister said.

A World Bank fund (₹2,000 crore) would be utilised to avoid flooding during the monsoon by developing storm water drains. The Chief Minister would convene a meeting of road development in Bengaluru on Monday or Tuesday, he said.

'Eliminate fraud'

Mr Shivakumar said e-khata would eliminate fraud in property transactions and ensure tax compliance. E-khatas have been issued to 7.2 lakh households already. It was decided to issue 'A' khatas to 7.5 lakh households now having 'B' khatas, he said.

KSRTC has advised passengers to carefully note their boarding points mentioned on the tickets. FILE PHOTO

1,500 special buses to clear festive rush

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To ensure hassle-free travel during the Gowri and Ganesha festivities on August 26 and 27, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has announced the operation of 1,500 additional buses from Bengaluru and other parts of the State.

The special services will run between August 25 and 26 for outbound passengers, while return services are scheduled on August 27 and August 31.

The extra services will connect Kempegowda Bus Station in Bengaluru to major pilgrim and district centres, including Dharmasthala, Kukke Subramanya, Shivamogga, Hassan, Mangaluru, Kundapura, Sringeri, Horanadu, Davangere, Hubballi, Dharwad, Belagavi, Vijayapura, Gokarna, Sirsi, Karwar, Raichur, Kalaburagi, Ballari, Koppal, Yadgir, Bidar, and Tirupati, and Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh, and Hyderabad in Telangana.

From Mysuru Road Bus Station, dedicated buses will ply towards Mysuru, Hunsur, Periyapatna, Virajpet, Kushalnagar, and Madikeri.

Premium services from Shantinagar BMTC Bus Station (TTMC) will cater to passengers bound for destinations in Tamil Nadu, including Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Kumbakonam, and Tiruchi, and in Kerala, including Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam, and Kozhikode.

The KSRTC has enabled advance booking on its website and at booking counters across the State, and ticketing centres in neighbouring States.

To encourage group and return bookings, the KSRTC is offering a 5% discount on fares for groups of four or more travelling under a single ticket. Additionally, a 10% concession will be extended to those booking onward and return journey tickets together.

Sensory kiosks recreate Multiple Sclerosis symptoms

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a first-of-its-kind initiative to raise awareness about Multiple Sclerosis (MS), an interactive experience, "Walk in my Shoes," featuring sensory simulation kiosks designed to help participants understand the often invisible and debilitating symptoms of MS, was held in Bengaluru on Friday.

The event underlined the need for better care and policy support for those living with the condition. Roche India, in collaboration with the Multiple Sclerosis Society of India (MSSI), oragnised the event. The simulation kiosks recreated a sensory experience of four of the most commonly occurring MS symptoms – loss of balance, motor impairment, blurry vision, and loss of sensitivity. A similar perception was devised through 2 kg leg bands, the snellen chart, and tremor-inducing wrist straps.

Rajan S., chief communication officer of Roche India, said such initiatives will help people who participate cultivate empathy towards MS patients.

"When you ask me when I was diagnosed with MS, I would say 15 years officially, but in reality, it has been 30 years, and it's almost silent suffering," said Arun Mohan, vice president of MSSI, Bengaluru. "Half the people suffering are not even aware of it," he said. "An MRI scan in India alone costs ₹30,000 to ₹40,000, and I take an injection twice, amounting to ₹1.6 lakh a year. While this is still not a cure, it makes one feel a little better than the day before," Mr. Mohan added.

Concerns over several policy hurdles to MS patients were also flagged at the event.

5-year maximum tenure fixed for administrative posts under Health Dept. in GBA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officers who are liable for transfer out of the Greater Bengaluru Area, will not be eligible for administrative positions within the GBA

Following the adoption of the Karnataka Civil Services (Regulation of Transfer of Medical Officers and Other Staff) (Amendment) Bill 2025, the State government has now stipulated a maximum of five years tenure for administrative posts under the Health Department in the Greater Bengaluru Area (GBA).

This is to prevent overstay and to ensure equitable distribution, transparent, fair and effective management of postings to administrative positions across the State, stated a Government Order (GO) issued in this regard on Friday.

"Upon completion of five-year tenure, such officers will be transferred in the ensuing general transfers, either to administrative positions outside the GBA or to other posts, as deemed appropriate by the government," stated the GO.

Officers who are liable for transfer out of the GBA as per Section 6(1) of the amended Act, will not be eligible for administrative positions within the GBA. This will also apply to those who have been recently transferred out of the GBA till completion of the prescribed minimum tenure in their current post.

No private practice

Officers posted to administrative positions will not be eligible to engage in private practice. This restriction is intended to ensure uninterrupted availability for administrative responsibilities and to avoid conflict of interest between private commitments and public duty.

Any violation of this condition will be treated as misconduct and can invite disciplinary action under the Karnataka Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1957, in addition to immediate removal from the administrative post.

Medical specialists posted in administrative positions should mandatorily render specialist services, in positions which are designated for their specialisation, for not less than six hours per week in government District/Taluk hospitals or any other government institution within their jurisdiction, as permitted by their controlling authority, in addition to their administrative duties.

Operation 'WeedOut': DRI dismantles nationwide drug syndicate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major crackdown on narcotics smuggling, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has dismantled a pan-India syndicate involved in trafficking hydroponic weed into the country. The operation, code-named "WeedOut", led to multiple simultaneous seizures and arrests across Bengaluru, Bhopal, and New Delhi between August 19 and 21.

On August 20, DRI officers intercepted two passengers at Bengaluru's Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station shortly after they boarded the Rajdhani Express (22691) bound for Delhi. A search of their baggage resulted in the recovery of 29.88 kg of hydroponic weed. In a coordinated move, another DRI team at Bhopal Junction seized 24.186 kg of the same contraband from two passengers who had boarded the Rajdhani Express a day earlier from Bengaluru. Simultaneously, in New Delhi, officers traced an associate mastermind of the syndicate. From his possession, investigators recovered proceeds of drug trafficking amounting to ₹1.02 crore.

The operation continued in Bengaluru, where DRI officials intercepted a passenger who arrived from Thailand on August 20. Officers searched a hotel, where he had checked in, in the early hours of August 21 and recovered an additional 17.958 kg of hydroponic weed. In total, the officers seized 72 kg of hydroponic weed valued at approximately ₹72 crore, along with ₹1.02 crore in illicit cash, all confiscated under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. The DRI confirmed that the associate mastermind and five passengers involved in the smuggling racket have been arrested.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, AUG. 23		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:36
RISE	06:02	SET 18:48
SUNDAY, AUG. 24		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:35
RISE	06:52	SET 19:25
MONDAY, AUG. 25		
RISE	06:08	SET 18:35
RISE	07:41	SET 20:01

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	28	19
Bengaluru	27	19

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
26°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU

COVER

In Kochi, ancestral tales retold

Magari's new store revives 80-year-old Papali House, blending heritage warmth with contemporary furniture design

Anasuya Menon

Furniture brand Magari's Kochi store, launched this month, is a sprawling space that resembles a vacation home. And that was the intention. In a thoughtful exercise in adaptive reuse, the 80-year-old ancestral home, Papali House, on Chittoor Road, was restored without stripping it of its legacy and old-world charm, with the idea of giving the store a 'lived-in' sentiment rather than a commercial vibe.

Beyond the heavy wooden front doors is a warmly lit space, fitted out in Magari's signature collections. Each room has been curated with pieces that reflect the city's sensibilities, blending contemporary design with the traditional. "Familiar in the region as a mansion with a deep-rooted identity, restoring Papali House was both a challenge and an opportunity for us," says Karun Mathew, one of the founders of Magari. "The transformation demanded sensitivity, and respecting the past while inviting the future."

The original façade of the house has been retained, and the layout is open and intuitive. Rather than segmenting areas into typical retail categories, the placement of the furniture has continuity, just as it would in a home.

The 9,000-sq.ft. store extends to what was the backyard of the house, showcasing its collection of outdoor furniture and furnishings.

Snapshots from Magari's new store in Kochi. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The design follows a distinct narrative, using Kerala-inspired rugs and fabric as wall pieces. The dark Kadapa stone flooring, the high ceilings, and dramatic lighting by sustainable and artisanal lighting brand Oorjja add sculptural depth. Sheer fabric panels, designed by textile artist Unmesh Dasthakir, act as functional partitions and an expression of Kerala's landscapes. This is Magari's fourth store in south India; the others are in Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Chennai.

Launched eight years ago by three partners – Mathew, Vishal Wadhwa and Amitha Madan – the Indian furniture brand draws its inspiration largely from the mid-century modern aesthetic. Each collection presents a fresh take on material and form, with individual pieces designed to spark conversation – a low dining table in stone, for instance. This piece, inspired by the Tamil Sangam era, revives the age-old practice of sitting cross-legged on the ground to have a meal.

The Ivai collection, on the other hand, makes use of sharper silhouettes in Italian dyed veneers, fused glass, steel and stone. The Timeless collection, which harks back to classic designs, interprets them in modern ways. For instance, a solid wooden table with a granite top, or a chair with a cane side panel. Magari's collaboration with Amaresh Anand Designs, a design studio based in Bengaluru, is a mix of quirk, comfort and drama. It features a range of products including chairs, sofas and tables. Magari uses ashwood imported from Australia for most of its products, but it also uses teak.

Magari has collaborations with other brands as well, such as Aristo India, which deals with custom-made wardrobes, Abaca, a sustainable outdoor furniture brand, Blind Love, designer window blinds, and Beruru, an outdoor lifestyle brand, in addition to Oorjaa.

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CM blames police, 'mass hysteria' for stadium stampede

When the Chief Minister refused to tender an apology for the incident near M. Chinnaswamy stadium on June 4, the entire Opposition staged a walkout from the Legislative Assembly

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday washed his hands off any responsibility for the stampede near M. Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru on June 4 that claimed 11 lives, and said police inaction was largely responsible for the incident that occurred during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) victory celebrations.

In a reply to a debate on the stampede in the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Siddaramaiah said the stampede was caused by "mass hysteria."

The RCB has the biggest fan base in the country and "collusion of the police with RCB" and failure of the police to handle the situation led to the stampede. When the Chief Minister refused to tender an apology for the incident, the entire Opposition staged a walkout from the House.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah speaking in the Legislative Assembly as Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar looks on, in Bengaluru on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Earlier, Mr. Siddaramaiah listed over a dozen stampedes in BJP-ruled States from 2008 to 2025, and said 39 people died during the Kumbh Mela stampede at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) in January 2025.

"Did U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath resign after the stampede?" he asked.

'I am in pain'

On the stampede at the stadium, the Chief Minister said, "In my 42 years of public life, such an incident has not taken place. I had never seen 11 young persons aged between 13 and 29 dying in a stampede. I am in pain. I expressed my sorrow the same day."

Mr. Siddaramaiah said that fans viewed RCB's victory as that of Bengaluru and Karnataka's. Even though there were only two players from Karnataka, he said "fans perceived the team's victory as Karnataka's victory and pride, which is mass hysteria."

Stampedes have occurred both in India and abroad at stadiums and at religious sites, he pointed out. The Chief Minister said at 5.30 p.m. on June 4, he came to know about the stampede when he was eating dosa at Janardhana Hotel in the city along with his grandson. Soon he called the Police Commissioner and Home Minister G. Parameshwara and rushed to the hospital. "I was disturbed by seeing the bodies," he said.

Drawing parallels between the stampede and the 36 deaths during the pandemic owing to shortage of oxygen at a hospital in Chamarajanagar, the Chief Minister asked, "Why did Suresh Kumar (BJP) not call the then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai government as an abettor?"

During the debate, Mr. Kumar had called the Congress government as "abettor" to 11 deaths.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the government had rendered justice by ordering a magisterial, a judicial, and a CID probe into the incident. It had also suspended five senior police officers, he said.

Govt. negligence

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok insisted that "negligence" on the part of Mr. Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and Dr. Parameshwara caused the stampede. Despite the police request for more time to hold the event, the government was in a hurry to get publicity and conducted events at the Vidhana Soudha and the stadium, he said.

The DPAR Secretary appealed to the public to attend victory celebrations at the stadium. Only 194 police were on duty and the government failed to draw sufficient police for the event despite availability of 10,000 police personnel in the city, Mr. Ashok said.

If the police declined permission for the event at the stadium, why did Mr. Shivakumar attend the "illegal function", the BJP leader asked. Mr. Shivakumar responded by stating that he attended the stadium event following a request from the police.

The Opposition, dissatisfied with the reply of the Chief Minister, staged a walkout and raised slogans.

State's financial burden due to spend of erstwhile BJP govt. and cut in Central allocation: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Strongly rebutting allegations that guarantee schemes had caused a huge financial burden on Karnataka's exchequer, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said the real reason for the financial burden was the erstwhile BJP dispensation's "financial indiscipline" of floating huge tenders without earmarking the necessary funds and the reduction in State's share of Central allocation by about ₹80,000 crore.

The Chief Minister also maintained that the guarantee schemes were actually development schemes that had helped in increasing the per capita income of the State.

Replying to a debate in the Legislative Assembly on issues related to development, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "The erstwhile BJP government cleared tenders for works to the tune of ₹2.7 lakh crore without earmarking necessary funds. It floated the CM's Discretionary Fund that made allocations of ₹1.66 crore without earmarking any funds. This, coupled with reduction in Central allocation to the tune of ₹80,000 crore is the main reason for the State's financial burden," he alleged.

Stating that the purchasing power of people had increased as the State government was providing benefits to the tune of ₹40,000 crore to ₹60,000 crore a year to each household through guarantee schemes, he wondered how it was not development.

Per capita income

"Because of guarantee schemes, the per capita income of the State had increased from ₹1.01 lakh in 2018 to ₹2.04 lakh now, which is the highest in the country," he said.

He said the Shakti scheme of free travel in State-run road transport corporation buses had created an additional employment of 23% in Bengaluru and 21% in Hubballi-Dharwad for women.

In all, the government had provided ₹96,000 crore for guarantee schemes so far till this July-end, he noted.

He told the Opposition members, who alleged that the government was discriminating against them in releasing development grants, that it would have been possible for the State to give more funds if the Centre had not reduced Karnataka's share of Central allocation.

'More than year's share of Cauvery water released to T.N.'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Pointing out that Karnataka has already released more than this year's stipulated quantum of 177.25 tmcft of the Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu as the storage in the Krishnaraja Sagar is full, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday sought to make a strong pitch for building the Mekedatu balancing reservoir to store the excess water.

Replying to a debate in the Legislative Assembly on damage owing to heavy rainfall, the Chief Minister said the proposed balancing reservoir would help in storing the excess water during heavy rainfall.

It would never affect the release of Tamil Nadu's share of water, he said, adding that Tamil Nadu had no reason to object to the Mekedatu proposal. Pointing out that the proposed Mekedatu reservoir can store 67 tmcft of water, he said it would be help in mitigating drought situation if the rains fail.

He appealed to Tamil Nadu to drop its objection to the Mekedatu project as it would not harm its interests.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has said storage in the Krishnaraja Sagar is full.

Govt. to bring out White Paper on allocations received for Centrally-sponsored schemes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In what may lead to a fresh round of tussle between the State and the Centre, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced that the government will bring out a White Paper on the allocations made to Karnataka for Centrally-sponsored and other schemes.

Replying to a debate in the Legislative Assembly on Central allocations and development, the Chief Minister said a demand for the White Paper had been made by MLAs during the debate with an intention of creating public awareness about the actual situation with respect to Central allocations.

He said earlier, the Centre used to share 75% of the project cost of the Centrally-sponsored schemes while States were bearing the remaining 25% cost.

But gradually, the Central share had reached a new low in the Narendra Modi-led government to the range of 40% to 42%, he alleged.

Size of Budget key

Countering the argument of the BJP that the Central allocations to Karnataka during this regime had increased manifold when compared to the UPA government led by Manmohan Singh, he urged them to consider the size of the Central Budget while making comparisons.

"The size of the Central Budget has increased from ₹16.63 lakh crore in 2014-15 to ₹50.65 lakh crore now," he pointed out, while saying that increase in the Central allocation now was owing to the increase in the Budget size and it should be seen in terms of percentage share.

Reduced allocation

Launching a counter-attack, Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok alleged that the Chief Minister, who also holds the Finance portfolio, had actually reduced the allocation for various development corporations.

He said that the allocation to Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Development Corporation had reduced from ₹100 crore in 2022-23 to ₹56.25 crore in 2025-26. Similarly, the allocation for Karnataka Tanda Development Corporation Limited had reduced from ₹110 crore to ₹75 crore and that of the D. Devaraj Urs Backward Classes Development Corporation had reduced from ₹190 crore to ₹125 crore in this period, he said.

SNIPPETS

'I am a born Congressman'

A day after singing the RSS anthem in the Legislative Assembly during the course of a debate, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday stated that he was a "born Congressman" and would die a Congressman, adding that he stands by the party steadfastly at all times.

"I have been given the responsibility of leading the party in the State and I firmly stand with the party," he said, speaking to reporters at Vidhana Soudha.

Responding to queries about him singing the RSS anthem in the Assembly, he said: "There is no question of me joining hands directly or indirectly with anyone. I keep researching about the BJP and the JD(S) as a political leader. Similarly, I have researched about the RSS too."

Souharda Coop. Bill passed in Legislative Council

The Karnataka Souharda Cooperative (Amendment) Bill 2025, which had been defeated in the Legislative Council on Wednesday embarrassing the Congress Government, was cleared in the Council on Friday.

The BJP and the JD(S) raised concerns and opposition to the amendment in the Bill that proposed that cooperative societies maintain statutory liquid ratio of 20%, among others.

However, the Bill was approved again in the Legislative Assembly and returned to the Council on Thursday. Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil placed the Bill again before the Council on Friday and Chairman Basavaraj Horatti announced that the Bill had been accepted.

Karnataka lost close to ₹80,000 crore owing to illegal iron ore extraction

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka suffered close to ₹80,000 crore in losses in the illegal iron ore extraction scam, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil informed the Legislative Council on Friday.

Participating in a discussion during the passage of the Karnataka Appointment of Recovery Commissioner for Seizure and Attachment of Property of illegal Mining and Proceedings of Crime Bill, 2025, he said that the quantum of iron ore extracted illegally and exported between 2005 and 2011 is estimated to be about 20 lakh crore tonnes, whose value at a cost of ₹4,003 per tonne would be ₹78,245 crore.

A file photo of boats allegedly involved in illegal sand extraction being seized by the Dakshina Kannada administration.

According to him, 111 companies indulged in illegal extraction. "The Recovery Commissioner is being appointed to recover the money," Mr. Patil said.

Mr. Patil headed a Cabinet sub-committee on illegal extraction which recently submitted its report to the Chief Minister and its 11 recommendations were accepted by the Cabinet.

The Cabinet has decided to establish fast-track courts to try illegal extraction cases. It has also decided to review 'B' reports in 29 cases submitted to the courts by the SIT and withdraw 'B' reports in eight other cases.

It has also decided to request the Centre to return cases that were earlier referred to the CBI but not investigated even after 10 years. These cases will be handed over to SIT. It also decide to set up investigating teams on a case-by-case basis in the Forest Department to estimate losses cased by illegal extraction.

Siddaramaiah taunts JD(S) on its 'dwindling strength'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

"I built the JD(S), but I am here (with the Congress) now. When I was the JD(S) State president, it had won 59 Assembly seats. Now, its strength has reduced to 18. In the next elections, its tally will get reduced to a mere two or three," said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the Legislative Assembly, on the last day of the Monsoon Session.

Declaring that the Congress would never again have any tie-up with the JD (S), a party he had a long association with, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "The JD(S) has become a political untouchable after it joined hands with the BJP."

Replying to a debate in the Assembly on development, the Chief Minister told the BJP that people of the State had never blessed it with their mandate even when it formed the government twice in the State. "You resorted to unethical practices like operation *kamala* (inducing political defections) to come to power," he taunted them.

Mr. Siddaramaiah described his first stint as Chief Minister from 2013 to 2018 as the "golden period" for the State owing to availability of adequate funds.

R. Ashok, Leader of Opposition, speaking in the Legislative Assembly on Friday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'November revolution'

Launching a counter-attack, Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok sought to draw the attention of the Chief Minister on the remarks of former Minister and senior Congress leader K.N. Rajanna that there will be a "revolution by November" in the Congress.

He remarked that the Opposition was eagerly waiting to see how the "revolution" would unfold in November.

Assembly adopts 39 Bills

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As both the Houses of the State legislature were adjourned *sine die* on Friday, the Legislative Assembly created a new record by adopting 39 Bills in the Monsoon Session.

Announcing this before adjourning the House, Speaker U.T. Khader said: "I am glad to note that the House has adopted 39 Bills which is the highest ever for any session."

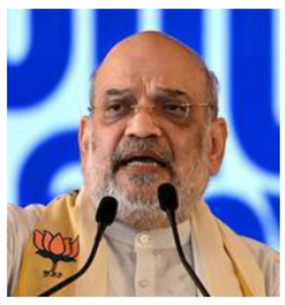
"All these Bills were adopted with adequate debates as well as appropriate replies," he added, stating that this was possible because of the cooperation from all members.

DKS to take part in Rahul's yatra in Bihar

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar told the Legislative Assembly on Friday that he will participate in a voter rights yatra taken out by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Bihar, on Saturday and Sunday. The KPCC chief said he would participate in the yatra along with a few other Congress MLAs.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is also expected to take part in the yatra after the Ganesha festival. Bihar goes to poll later this year.



Amit Shah

'BJP will get 25% votes in Kerala local body polls'

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday claimed that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will garner about 25% vote share in the forthcoming local body elections in Kerala.

The party would come up with a good performance in the Assembly elections next year, he said at a conclave organised by a Malayalam news channel here. Speaking at a State leadership meet of the party later, Mr. Shah reportedly stated that there was no shortcut to victory and urged party leaders and workers to work hard and earn the confidence of the electorate.

M.T. Ramesh, State general secretary of the BJP, said Mr. Shah suggested a 21-point agenda as part of a roadmap for the local body and Assembly elections.

"He told us to launch a major campaign aimed at diverting the youth caught in the influence of anti-national organisations into the development pathway. The party will formulate an election plan focussing on a development agenda for the State," he said.

Public hearing sees many expressing concern over proposed Keni port

EIA report offers no remedies for the environmental damage and pollution caused by the project, says marine biologist

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A public hearing held at Ankola by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and the district administration of Uttara Kannada regarding a proposed commercial port in Keni saw opposition from the locals and the fishers' community in the region against the project.

People from the place and nearby villages gathered for the hearing, during which concerns about the unavailability of the full version of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report in Kannada, the short duration for which the study was conducted, and potential environmental damage and loss of livelihood due to the project were raised.

Mode of development

V.N. Nayak, marine biologist and resident of Honnavar, pointed out that the report offers no remedies for the environmental damage and pollution caused by the project, which is proposed in one of the most fertile fishing grounds.

Preetam Masurkar, who hails from Uttara Kannada, emphasised that the community is not against development, but projects need to be introduced in a systematic and people-friendly manner. According to him, the draft EIA report gave no such assurance.

As a case in point, he said the report offers automated spinkler systems at quarry site as a mitigation measure to minimise dust emission.

"Quarrying requires blasting, drilling, road transport, use of heavy machinery, hauling, loading, and storage. Is it practically possible to reduce dust by installing a sprinkler system when so many equipment are working at a time?" he questioned.

Exemption for rapid EIA?

It was in 2023 when JSW Infrastructure, a commercial port company, part of the JSW Group, won the bid for developing the port on a public-private partnership basis. However, the Uttara Kannada coasts are one of the most fertile fishing grounds.

Local communities, experts and activists have been opposing the project, citing potential environmental damage and displacement of livelihoods at this biodiversity hotspot.

A draft version of the EIA report, a 600-page document in English, whose summary alone was made available to the locals in Kannada, drew further ire from the fisher communities.

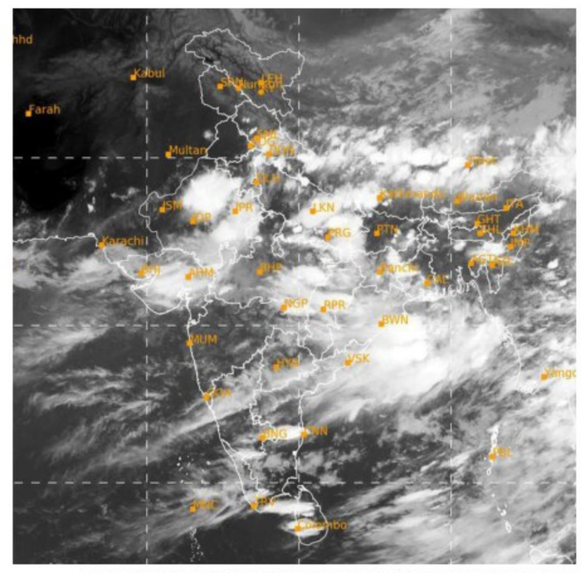
Raising questions about the duration of the study, Mahabaleshwar Hegde, a researcher who works with coastal communities in the region, asked if an exemption was provided to conduct a rapid EIA in three months instead of a comprehensive one-year study.

Responding to this, a KSPCB official said that baseline data has been collected for three months, and a comprehensive study will be done if required. A project proponent from JSW Infrastructure added that according to the CRZ notification, a comprehensive study is required only for eroding coasts, and as per secondary scientific data and mapping carried out by ISRO Ankola was not categorised as one.

Mr. Hegde, however, countered this saying that various government documents and studies have shown that Ankola has a high-eroding coast. Mr. Nayak added to this, noting that according to ISRO data, the entire Uttara Kannada district is declared a critically vulnerable area.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.9	25.8	Kozhikode	—	32.6	25.8
Ahmedabad	5	31.7	25.7	Kurnool	—	31.8	26.0
Aizawl	—	31.5	20.8	Lucknow	0.4	33.3	26.4
Allahabad	3	33.8	25.6	Madurai	—	36.0	26.7
Bengaluru	—	29.2	20.9	Mangaluru	13	29.8	23.4
Bhopal	28	27.4	23.4	Mumbai	3	29.8	25.8
Bhubaneswar	6.4	28.6	25.8	Mysuru	—	31.2	20.0
Chandigarh	—	36.3	25.9	New Delhi	0.1	34.5	26.2
Chennai	—	34.5	24.8	Patna	—	33.0	28.5
Coimbatore	—	31.1	24.0	Port Blair	6	29.0	22.7
Dehradun	0.1	31.3	24.0	Puducherry	4	31.2	25.8
Gangtok	19	20.5	18.0	Pune	2.2	29.2	23.5
Goa	6	30.5	24.7	Raipur	1	29.3	25.6
Guwahati	13	33.6	25.2	Ranchi	12	24.6	22.8
Hubballi	—	28.0	22.0	Shillong	6.3	24.5	17.4
Hyderabad	—	30.0	22.2	Shimla	4	26.8	19.6
Imphal	—	30.5	24.2	Srinagar	—	33.2	19.3
Jaipur	15	28.8	24.7	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.0	25.1
Kochi	—	29.6	25.8	Tiruchi	—	33.0	25.4
Kohima	3	22.2	18.9	Vijayawada	—	34.4	26.7
Kolkata	12	28.1	24.8	Visakhapatnam	—	32.9	27.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.27	.80	.26	26	41	
Bengaluru	.13	.16	.36	36	132	
Chennai	.10	.16	.51	42	59	
Delhi	9	.16	.37	152	148	
Hyderabad	5	.16	.32	111	73	
Kolkata	8	.89	.30	25	34	
Lucknow	.10	.36	.57	46	61	
Mumbai	9	.12	149	23	41	
Pune	—	.24	.63	30	43	
Visakhapatnam	.10	.50	.17	68	113	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 144 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan recorded a healthy AQI score of 16

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

'T.N. has potential for setting up integrated townships'

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Tamil Nadu and its cities such as Coimbatore have huge potential for development of integrated townships, said Sanjay Chugh, city head and director of Anarock Property Consultants, in Coimbatore on Friday.

Speaking at a panel discussion's presented by GSquare and powered by *The Hindu* on "Defining Coimbatore's Growth Trajectory with Integrated Townships", organised as a part of the Coimbatore Unlimited 3.0 series in Coimbatore city, Mr. Chugh said Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Gurgaon have seen development of integrated townships. Cities such as Chennai and Coimbatore offer scope for development of such projects in Tamil Nadu.

In 10 years, there is potential in Coimbatore for even 25 townships, he said.

Since the pandemic, several Information Technology companies have set up shop in Coimbatore and there is hardly any IT space available now.

Ideas exchange: Panelists during a discussion organised as part of the Coimbatore Unlimited 3.0 series on Friday. S.SIVA SARAVANAN

However, six to nine million sq.ft of IT space is under development and will bring in people to the city, said Jude Alex, Managing Director of Synergy Business Ventures.

Integrated development is planned development and it is the way forward. A 700-acre project of GSquare in Coimbatore has connectivity with the western bypass road project, added Junaith Babu, Chief Operating Officer of GSquare Group. According to J. Sathish, Director of Kongu Global Forum, any township or city should be liveable. Coimbatore is attractive because of the opportunities, development, and people, he said.

Vishnu B.G. moderated the session.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ
YADGIRI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, YADGIRI-585 202
(Government of Karnataka, Autonomous Institution)
E-mail id: directorymsyadgir@gmail.com Mob:9481623299
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಯಿಮ್ಸ್/ಟೆಂಡರ್/18/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ:22–08–2025
::ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ :: ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್
ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಔಷಧ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಈ ಕೇಳಕಂಡ 04 ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.
ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಸಂ.1.:ಯಿಮ್ಸ್ ಯಾದಗಿರಿಗೆ ಇಂಜೆಕ್ಷನ್ ಮತ್ತು ದ್ರವಗಳ ಖರೀದಿಗಾಗಿ. DME/2025-26/IND1639. ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಸಂ.2:ಯಿಮ್ಸ್ ಯಾದಗಿರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ಯಾಪ್ಸುಲ್‌ಗಳ ಖರೀದಿಗಾಗಿ. DME/2025-26/IND1640. ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಸಂ.3 : ಯಿಮ್ಸ್ ಯಾದಗಿರಿಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ವಸ್ತುಗಳ ಖರೀದಿಗಾಗಿ.DME/2025-26/IND1666 ಟೆಂಡರ್.ಸಂ.4 : ಯಿಮ್ಸ್ ಯಾದಗಿರಿಗೆ ಶಸ್ತ್ರಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ ಮತ್ತು ಸೂಚುರಿಸ್ ವಸ್ತುಗಳ ಖರೀದಿಗಾಗಿ. DME/2025-26/IND1667
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ವಿವರ
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ https://yimsyadgiri.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/– ಡೀನ್ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು
ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ
ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/216/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.&ಎ/2025–26

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
[ICAR, NAAC accredited and UGC u/s 12(B) & 2(f) approved]
Stores Purchase Officer, UAS, Raichur - 584104,
E-mail: spo@uasraichur.edu.in Ph: 08532-220165
E-Tender Notification No. SPO/UASR/E-Proc-05/2025-26, Dt:18.08.2025.
TENDER NOTIFICATION
The University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur is inviting e-tender notification for PURCHASE OF RAW MATERIALS / CHEMICALS FOR PULSE MAGIC AND CHICKPEA MAGIC PRODUCTION REQUIRED FOR ZONAL AGRICULTURE RESERCH STATION, KALABURGI.The interested suppliers are requested to participate through online only. The website address iswww.kppp.karnataka.gov.in (Indent Number:-UASRCR/2025-26/IND0057& 0061. The last date for submission of filled in Tender Document is 01.09.2025.
Sd/- Stores Purchase Officer
UAS, Raichur.
DIP/RCR/349/KSMCA/3502025-26

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL. M.L.B.C.C.
Division No.2. Naviluteertha-591116. TQ. Saundatti. Dist Belagavi.
Dn. e-mail: eemlbcnth@gmail.com Ph: 08330-224500
No. MLBCC-2/DB/4701 KTR-1/CALL-2/e-tender/2025-26/1158, Dated: 21-08-2025
SHORT TERM ENDER NOTIFICATION
CALL-2. (Through K.P.P. Portal system only)
(Two cover system)
Electronic percentage tender through e-procurement platform is invited by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, MLBCC Division No.2, Naviluteertha, on behalf of M.D., KNNL Bangalore for taking up the following work from the Eligible contractors registered under KPWD The tenderers are required to apply in two cover system (as per KTTP act 2000).
Estimated amount **Rs. 100.00 Lakhs.**
Work Indent Numbers. 2942
1) Last date of tender receipt: **29-08-2025 up to 4.00 PM. 2)** Cover -I,Technical, Bid will be opened on **30-08-2025 after 4.30 PM. 3)** Cover-II, Financial Bid will be opened on **01-09-2025 after 11.00 AM.**
Further information about electronic tendering can be had from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and can be had from the undersigned during office hours.
Sd/-
(V.K. Mudigoudar)
Executive Engineer(I/C), KNNL,
MLBCC.Dn. no.2 Naviluteertha.
DIPR/Belagavi/874/Adverto/2025-26

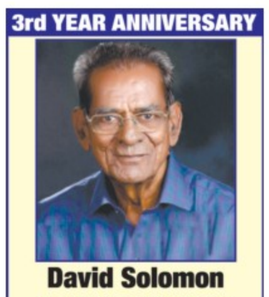
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.
ಚಾಮರಾಜಪೇಟೆ ಸರ್ಕಲ್, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ–577001
ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: wchdvg.84@gmail.com ದೂ. ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08192 258784
ಸಂ: ಮಮಆ/ಸರಬ/19/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.08.2025
ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿ/ಔಷಧಿ/ಉಪಕರಣ/ ಸಲಕರಣೆ ಖರೀದಿಸುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೌಲ್ಯ ರೂ.50.00 ಲಕ್ಷ. (2) ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊಬಲಗು ರೂ. 1,00,000–00 (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–22–08–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (4) ಪ್ರೀ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–01–09–2025 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ:11:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (5) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–11–09–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 05:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (6) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–12–09–2025 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11:00ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (7) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:–16–09–2025 ಸಂಜೆ 4:30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ (8) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ:–ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ
ವಾಸಾಇ/ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ/288/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26
ಸಹಿ/– ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕರು,
ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, ARSIKERE.
PH.NO:08174-232201
FAX NO :08174-233274 email add:
itstaff_ulb_arasikere@yahoo.com website add :
www.arasikerecity..mrc.gov.in
NO:CMC/EE/15thfinance commission/02/2025-26
Date:21-08-2025
-: Re-Expression of Interest :-
The Municipal commissioner, City Municipal Council, Arsikere invites Expression of Interest from eligible Expression of Interest, manufacturers, authorized dealers for the supply of the following equipments listed below required for solid waste management site limit in City Municipal Council, Arsikere, Hassan District:interested may submit their detailed proposal with recent models and technologies available with complete technical specifications and prices applicable. as per the Karnataka Public Procurement Transparency Directions 1999-2000 Act 2000. Eligible tenderers can participate in the Expression of Interest through the portal http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. or Date : 28-08-2025 by 5.30 PM EOI can be submitted to Commissioner, City Municipal Council, Arsikere Sl.No.1)Particulars: Supply and installation of 80 KW capacity On-Grid Solar power plant and maintenance for 5 years DMA/2025-26/ PREQUAL_TENDER_NUMBER_178/CALL-2 Fund: 15th finance 1.Further details can be obtained from the website www.kppp.karntaka.gov.in and from the office of Municipal commissioner, City Municipal Council, Arsikere or Assistant Executive Engineer, City Municipal Council.
sd/-President, City Municipal Council, Arsikere
sd/- Municipal Commisioner, City Municipal Council, Arsikere
ಪಾಸಾಸಂ೦ಇ/ಪೌಸನ/ಪಾಪಸನ/474/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

3rd YEAR ANNIVERSARY



David Solomon
(18-01-1938 - 23-08-2022)
Retd Professor of Economics
Sir Theagaraya College, Chennai
Former Diocesan Education Officer, CSI Madras Diocese
Fondly remembered by family

23rd Death Anniversay

P Gopal
23-08-2002
Deeply Loved and Missed By
Son- G Nagabhushan
Grand son- Vickey and Nithin
Grand daughter- Aashika

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

ELEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

Smt. **K. ANNAPOORANI**
alias **PRABHA**
Superintendent (Retd.), T.N.E.B, Chennai
W/o. Sri. C.S.SUBRAMANIAM
Ex-E.I.D – Parry, Chennai.
20.2.1940 – 23.8.2014
Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear.
Rajesh & Family,
Usha Lakshmanan & Family
and APPA

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
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Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
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KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited
KMF Complex: Dr. M. H. Marigowda Road,
DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029.
Tel: 080-26096834, e-mail : engg@kmf.coop
IFT No: KMF/ENGG/MD/ETPSLUDGE_DISPOSAL_3rd CALL/2025-26 Date: 20-08-2025
TENDER NOTIFICATION – THIRD CALL
[TWO COVER SYSTEM] [THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY]
Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bengaluru invites tenders from the eligible KSPCB Authorized personnel / ETP Service Providers & Contractors with valid license & any other eligible companies who have executed similar kind of works may participate in the tender as indicated below, by logging on to website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also contact Help desk E-mail: hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com, support@eprochelpdesk.com and helpline no. +91-8046010000, +91-8068948777, 080-22230960, 080-22234115

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD in Rs.	Period of contract
1	Transportation & Safe Disposal of ETP Sludge Of 2 MT per Day from 1700 KLPD Capacity Effluent Treatment Plant At Mother Dairy At Yelahanka, A Unit of KMF @ Bengaluru District for Six Months Period (Rate Contract) as per the guidelines of KSPCB Norms – 3rd Call	1 Job	65,000/-	Six Months

1. Tender schedules may be downloaded from dated 21-08-2025 to 19-09-2025 up to 4-00 pm.
2. Last date for Tender submission on date: 19-09-2025 up to 4.00 pm
3. Tender [Part 1] to be opened on date: 20-09-2025 at 4.30 pm
The interested & reputed applicants may participate in the tender by logging on to website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in, Henceforth changes/modification in the tender, it will be uploaded in the KPP Portal only.
For Karnataka Milk Federation Limited
Sd/- Director [Engineering-1]

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U04010KA2002SGC030438)
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPP portal)
Tender no.: BESCOM/2025-26/SE0281/CALL-2
BESCOM invites Request For Proposal (RFP) for **"Selection of Solar Power Generators (SPGs) on the basis of Build, Own & Operate (BOO) for Design, Survey, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of grid connected distributed solar power plants for solarization of selected Agri feeders at Sub-Station (SS) level to the capacity of 500MW in BESCOM jurisdiction, its associated 11kV line to connect the plant with concerned SS and Remote Monitoring System (RMS) of solar power plants through RESCO mode, for 25 years".** The bid documents will be available on or after **22.08.2025** in **https://kppp. karnataka.gov.in** The prospective bidders have to register on the bidding portal. The last date for submission of bids is **30.08.2025 at 4:00pm.** For any queries regarding portal, please contact KPPP helpdesk no.:080-46010000, 080-68948777 or email: **support@eprochelpdesk.com**.
Tender No. BESCOM/2025-26/SE0281 stands cancelled due to technical glitch in selection of packages
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General Manager (Ele,)
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A productive visit

India and China seem ready to put behind the memory of Galwan clashes

Judging by the statements and readouts from both sides, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's two-day visit to India this week was extremely productive. While Mr. Wang was in Delhi at the invitation of NSA Ajit Doval for the 24th Special Representatives talk on the boundary question, he also met External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar for bilateral talks and the normalisation process after the four-year military standoff at the Line of Actual Control. Mr. Wang was also received by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who said that he would travel to Tianjin for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting. Mr. Modi will meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping. In Delhi, India and China agreed to resume border trade at three points, restart direct flights, expand the Kailash Manasarovar yatra slots for pilgrims and relax visas. While there were positive discussions on the lifting of export restrictions by China on fertilizers, rare earth products and boring machinery, it is unclear whether there was headway on China's demand that India lift its scrutiny of Chinese FDI in Indian companies. The two sides agreed to expedite the process of boundary resolution of the 3,500 km India-China border. Significantly, the Modi government agreed to build on the 2005 agreement of Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question. Meanwhile, the Chinese Ambassador Xu Feihong said that China opposes the U.S.'s "bully" move of imposing 50% tariffs on India.

The outcomes indicate that Delhi has decided it can now "move ahead" from the PLA transgressions, Galwan clashes and the standoff. While Mr. Doval said that the "borders have been quiet", the government was made uncomfortably aware that even with a stable border, other long-standing problems will continue to shadow ties. Mr. Wang later left for Kabul to work with Pakistan and the Taliban on a plan to extend the BRI and China-Pakistan Economic Corridor – India is opposed to both – into Afghanistan. He then flew to Islamabad for a strategic dialogue with his Pakistani counterparts. China's diplomatic support to Pakistan after the Pahalgam attacks and during Operation Sindoor did not come up during Mr. Wang's visit, but provide an ominous overhang to ties, as did Ambassador Xu's contention that Pakistan too is a victim of terrorism. While the U.S.'s attack on Indian trade and economy may be spurring New Delhi's efforts, the reset with China must not come from a perceived position of weakness, and the next steps must be taken keeping in focus the strategic challenge.

Targeting research

Attacks on research institutions reflect India's declining academic freedoms

Mistakes and misinterpretations must not be confused with cases of malicious misinformation. The filing of FIRs against a researcher associated with Lokniti, a programme of the CSDS, and the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)'s show cause notice to the CSDS, represent yet another troubling chapter in the recent erosion of academic freedoms in India. The trigger seems to be a post on X by Lokniti co-director Sanjay Kumar, which had erroneous data about reductions in the electoral roll in some constituencies in Maharashtra. Expressing regret, Mr. Kumar deleted the post. Yet, the BJP governments in Maharashtra and at the Centre have weaponised what is a mistake to launch broader attacks on the institution, despite the post having no connection to the Opposition's allegations about inflated electoral roll numbers during the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly elections. The ICSSR's insinuations about the CSDS-Lokniti's funding arrangements echo the treatment meted out to other premier institutions. The Centre for Policy Research faced tax surveys that resulted in the cancellation of its foreign funding licence and tax-exempt status. This targeting suggests a coordinated effort to silence independent research voices rather than address administrative concerns. Such acts have led to India's ranking falling to the bottom 20% among 179 nations in the 2024 Academic Freedom Index published by the V-Dem Institute.

Institutions such as CSDS-Lokniti serve a vital democratic function by conducting empirical research that helps understand policy implications. Through its National Election Studies and comprehensive data archive, Lokniti has helped transform the study of Indian politics to one based on rigorous, large-scale empirical inquiry. Its survey on the verification documents listed by the ECI during its Special Intensive Revision exercise in Bihar, among voters across five States and one Union Territory, exemplifies this. Rather than acknowledging the finding that the availability of such documents is rather low among a large cohort of voters in India, and places onerous burdens on voters in the event of a country-wise SIR, the ICSSR has characterised this research as an attempt to malign the ECI. How can policy effectiveness be assessed without rigorous empirical investigations such as well-designed and transparent opinion surveys? The current government has also undermined its own statistical apparatus. The delayed Census and suppressed statistical surveys point to discomfort with independent and critical analysis. As India navigates complex development challenges, it desperately needs the kind of critical feedback and evidence-based analysis that institutions such as the CSDS provide. Silencing these voices through administrative harassment and funding restrictions serves neither good governance nor national interest.

A Court order that was barking up the wrong tree

Vivek Mukherjee

is an Assistant Professor of Law at the National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) Hyderabad, and Faculty Coordinator of the Animal Law Centre

The Supreme Court of India's order of August 11, 2025, to round up and incarcerate all street dogs in New Delhi in shelters was not just a misguided attempt to solve a problem. It was a scientifically unsound, legally questionable and morally bankrupt decree that served as a convenient smokescreen for the capital's real and pressing crises. While this misguided directive was stayed by the Court on August 22, 2025, its initial pronouncement revealed a dangerous willingness to ignore both scientific evidence and constitutional compassion. Since the final hearing on the matter is still pending, it is imperative for the citizenry in India to weigh their options. The initial order was one that sentenced lakhs of sentient beings to a life of misery and eventual death, while ignoring proven and humane solutions that lie unimplemented due to sheer institutional apathy.

A blueprint for disaster

The directive, which was hailed by some as a solution to the "stray dog menace," was, in reality, a blueprint for a public health catastrophe. The very idea that mass shelters can work in a country such as India is a dangerous fantasy. It has been a catastrophic failure even in developed nations. In the United States, the historical "pound" system, as documented by sociologists such as Leslie Irvine, evolved into a grim cycle of capture and kill. Overcrowded shelters become high-stress environments, leading to extreme psychological distress, aggression, and rampant disease transmission. A 1999 study by David Tuber on dogs in animal shelters highlighted the severe behavioural problems that arise from confinement, noting that long-term sheltering is detrimental to their welfare.

Let us imagine lakhs of Delhi's free-roaming, territorial dogs, suddenly captured and thrown together. The result would be brutal dogfights, injuries and mass casualties. These shelters, costing thousands of crores to build and maintain, would inevitably become epicentres for zoonotic diseases such as rabies and leptospirosis, posing a grave risk not just to the animals but also to the poorly-paid and unprotected staff employed to manage them. Should a disease outbreak occur, the disposal of thousands of carcasses would create an environmental and public health hazard of unimaginable proportions.

Furthermore, the Court's order defied basic ecological science. The mass removal of dogs would create a "vacuum", a phenomenon well-documented in studies of animal population control. Nature abhors a vacuum. Dogs from neighbouring States such as Haryana and Uttar Pradesh would simply migrate into Delhi to fill the newly available ecological niche, drawn by the same food sources. Would the Delhi government have built a great wall around the city to keep them out? Or would it have employed security guards to patrol the borders? The idea is as ludicrous as it is impractical.

> In its attempt to tackle Delhi's stray dog problem, the top court's initial pronouncement chose to ignore scientific evidence and constitutional compassion

The removal of dogs, which are efficient scavengers, would have also likely led to an explosion in the population of rodents and monkeys, bringing with them a different set of public health problems. This approach is in direct contradiction to the guidelines of the World Health Organization (WHO) and India's own National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (NAPRE), both of which advocate mass sterilisation and vaccination as the only scientific method for rabies control and population management.

A pernicious narrative is being spun that this is a conflict between the "dog-loving elite" and the poor, who bear the brunt of dog bites. This is a deliberate and cruel misrepresentation. As research by scholars such as Yamini Narayanan has shown, street dogs are an integral part of the urban ecosystem, living in a symbiotic relationship with the city's inhabitants, especially its most marginalised. For Delhi's vast homeless population, abandoned by the state and invisible to the society, a street dog is often their only companion, a source of comfort, and a guardian in the lonely, dangerous nights living on the pavement. To rip these animals away is to inflict another layer of cruelty on people who have already been failed by the system.

Let us be clear. The street dog issue is a carefully orchestrated diversion. It is a smokescreen to hide the spectacular failures of governance in Delhi. While the city's attention is diverted to the canines, pressing issues are swept under the carpet – these include : allegations of institutional voter theft by the Opposition, crumbling infrastructure, roads that turn into rivers every monsoon, rampant corruption, and crippling inflation. The top court should have been pulling up the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) for its abysmal failure to execute its statutory duty.

'ABC' is the solution

The real solution has been available for decades: the Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme. The success of this programme in cities such as Jaipur is a testament to its efficacy. A study in 2010 on Jodhpur's dog population following an ABC programme showed a significant and stable decline in numbers and a high rate of vaccination coverage. Yet, the MCD's implementation has been a sham. Data from the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) over the years reveal a story of insufficient budgets, unmet sterilisation targets, and a complete lack of accountability. The problem is not the dogs. It is the dereliction of duty by the MCD.

This brings us to the profound legal flaws in the Supreme Court's initial order. The judgment, delivered by a Bench headed by Justice J.B. Pardiwala, stands in stark and bewildering contradiction to a more reasoned order delivered in 2024, by a Bench headed by Justice J.K. Maheshwari. The Maheshwari judgment upheld the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, which are rooted in science and compassion. It affirmed that an indiscriminate killing of dogs is not the solution. The modified order of August 22, 2025, has resolved this glaring conflict, rightly shifting the national focus towards establishing uniform protocols for humane and scientific canine management.

Furthermore, the right to challenge this order, the *locus standi*, is rooted in our constitutional and cultural fabric. Article 51A(g) of the Constitution of India imposes a fundamental duty on every citizen to have compassion for living creatures. This is not a mere suggestion. It is a cornerstone of the republic's moral and legal framework. Cruelty to animals, sanctioned by the state, is an affront to this duty and to our collective humanity.

Adopt an evidence-based approach

No one denies that the issue of dog bites must be addressed. But the solution cannot be a "final solution" of mass incarceration. A targeted, evidence-based approach is needed. If there is clear evidence of an unprovoked attack by a specific dog, that animal should be humanely captured and observed by professionals. This is a far cry from the indiscriminate round-up ordered by the Court.

The Supreme Court's initial order was a monumental error. It was a victory for hysteria over science, for convenience over compassion, and for political distraction over genuine governance. There should be no diversion from the real problems that plague the capital. And the MCD must be held accountable for its decades of failure. The path to a safer, more humane city lies not in building dog prisons but in implementing the proven, scientific, and compassionate solution of sterilisation and vaccination.

Set the guardrails for AI use in courtrooms

Leah Verghese

works at DAKSH, Bengaluru

Smita Mutt

works at DAKSH, Bengaluru

Dona Mathew

works at Digital Futures Lab, Goa

In July this year, the Kerala High Court published a set of guidelines for Artificial Intelligence (AI) use by the district judiciary ("Policy Regarding Use of Artificial Intelligence Tools in District Judiciary"). As the first policy in the country directly addressing AI use in judicial processes and setting out strict safeguards, it is timely. AI tools, from document translation to defect identification in filings, are expected to improve speed and efficiency, which are attractive incentives for a court system which has five crore pending cases.

There are issues

But seemingly innocuous tasks such as AI-enabled translations and transcription are not without risks. For example, a Supreme Court of India judge reported the translation of 'leave granted' into *'chhutti sweekaar* (holiday approved') in Hindi. In the case of *Noel Anthony Clarke vs Guardian News & Media Ltd.* (2025) EWHC 550 (KB), an AI-transcription tool repeatedly transcribed the claimant's name, "Noel", as "no". OpenAI's Whisper, an AI-powered speech recognition system, was reported to occasionally make up or "hallucinate" entire phrases and sentences, especially when people spoke with longer pauses between their words.

Search engine bias in AI-enabled legal research could nudge users toward results influenced by user patterns, potentially 'invisibilising' relevant precedents. A study published in the *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies* found that legal Large Language Models (LLM) can make up case laws and cite incorrect sources to substantiate claims.

At a more structural level, AI risks reducing adjudication into rule-based inferences, overlooking the combination of human judgment, specific context, and relevance of precedents that impact judicial decision-making.

Some market tools are currently being used in courts on a non-commercial test basis, such as transcription of oral arguments and witness depositions. Without specified time-frames, success parameters, or framework for access, storage, and use of non-public, sensitive or personal data, such pilots warrant careful consideration. AI tools offered to courts on a test basis risk creating dependencies without clear pathways to sustainable adoption. Moreover, new technological paradigms demand essential infrastructure such as reliable Internet connectivity and hardware.

> As the use of Artificial Intelligence becomes more common in courts, clear frameworks are crucial to guide its safe and responsible use

A quick analysis of publicly available tenders for AI services across courts shows that even if adoption is cautious, courts are not necessarily designing risk management frameworks to address ethical and legal risks. While human checks and balances, such as manual vetting of AI-translated judgements by retired judges, advocates and translators are in place, AI systems learn from available data, with a possibility of error as they encounter new information in new contexts. Scholars note that hallucinations in LLMs are a feature, and not a bug, requiring human oversight and careful adoption in high-risk scenarios.

As courts increasingly integrate AI use in their daily work, the combination of AI's ethical risks and the complexity of the legal system requires effective guardrails to mitigate risks. Since the majority of court procedures remain paper-based, any transition to advance AI deployment must not further debilitate an already imperfect system.

First, there is a need for critical AI literacy among judges, court staff and lawyers. In addition to capacity building to use AI tools, programmes are also required to understand the limitations of the systems deployed. Judicial academies and bar associations, in collaboration with AI governance experts, are well placed to facilitate such capacity building.

Second, guidelines are needed to shape individual use of generative AI for research and judgment writing. If AI is used in the adjudication process, litigants must have a right to be informed. Similarly, litigants and lawyers have a right to know if AI is being used in certain courtrooms. Given the potential for errors arising from AI use, courts should examine whether litigants may be permitted to opt-out of pilots or fully-deployed AI if they have any concerns about safeguards or human oversight.

Third, courts need to adopt standardised procurement guidelines to support the evaluation of a proposed AI system's reliability and suitability for the task at hand. Pre-procurement steps will also help courts diagnose the exact problem and whether AI is the best solution. Procurement frameworks can guide assessment of technical criteria around explainability, data management and risk mitigation.

On the eCourts project

These frameworks will enable decision-makers to monitor vendor compliance and performance, which may be beyond the routine expertise of judges and the registry.

The Vision Document for Phase III of the eCourts Project (e-Committee, Supreme Court of India) acknowledges the need to create technology offices to guide courts in assessing, selecting, and overseeing the implementation of complex digital solutions, including infrastructure and software. Such scaffolding to aid and assist decision-making on AI use and adoption is one way to overcome gaps in technical expertise. Dedicated specialists can give courts clearer guidance in adopting AI tools as part of comprehensive planning.

As courts inch towards AI adoption, it is important not to lose sight of the ultimate purpose of AI in the system – to serve the ends of justice. In this rapidly evolving technological landscape, clear guidelines on the use and the adoption of AI in courts are essential to ensure that the drive for an efficient court system does not eclipse the nuanced reasoning and human decision-making that is at the heart of the adjudicatory process.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bill blocking

The founding fathers of the Constitution may have never imagined that constitutional functionaries would resort to dilatory tactics to circumvent the prescriptions of law and keep matters pending for months without taking a decision. The actions of constitutional functionaries sitting on Bills/issues cannot be considered as 'aberrations', as aberrations are expected to be rare as well as short-lived. Even if those actions are considered an 'aberration', the Supreme Court is expected to resolve the issues in accordance with constitutional principles.

Kosaraju Chandramouli,
Hyderabad

Time-tested ties

The irony is that in trying to unjustly 'penalise' India, the self-styled global policeman, the U.S. President, is categorically proving that the U.S.'s relations with India are as unpredictable as the weather. Mr. Trump is simply reinforcing the fact that India-Russia relations are more steadfast and time-tested than India-U.S. ties. The reality is that the U.S. is habituated to playing Big Brother to friendly, smaller nations and reducing them to becoming its client states such as Pakistan. Another irritant for Uncle Sam is that during Operation Sindoor, India successfully thwarted attacks from Pakistan by using a Russian-made defence system. It is time New Delhi overlooks the U.S.'s blow-hot-blow-cold relationship and looks elsewhere for its exports.

Nalini Vijayaraghavan,
Thiruvananthapuram

Madras Day, the MMC

The history of Madras would be incomplete without mentioning the Madras Medical College (MMC) and Government General Hospital. It was established as the first medical college in India along with the Calcutta Medical College on February 2, 1835. But due to administrative reasons, Calcutta was opened on January 28, 1835. Government General Hospital — renamed in 2011 as Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital — is as old as Madras. The MMC has numerous firsts to its credit such as the first woman doctor in the English-speaking world, the first woman doctor of independent India and the first woman doctor of Sri Lanka who graduated from this college. The first X-ray machine in SE Asia (soon after its discovery in 1895) was installed in 1900. I have strong bonds with the MMC — as an alumnus (1975) and having retired from service on superannuation.

Dr. V.K. Ramadesikan,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name.

About 500 people, half of them South Asian, marched through central Dublin on July 26, 2025, calling attention towards the recent spate of attacks against Indians in Ireland. PRIYANKA BORPUJARI

Building a home amid the hostility

On July 19, an Indian man was assaulted in the suburb of Tallaght in Dublin, Ireland. Since then, there have been several attacks against Indians in the green isle, causing alarm in the immigrant community. With politicians there riding on anti-immigrant rhetoric, the situation has worsened. **Priyanka Borpujari** reports on how the transformation of Ireland as a major immigrant destination has brought many challenges

Sowmya Paul, 44, has been working in Ireland for about two decades, but she is still perceived as an outsider. "I have been shouted at and asked to leave the country," said the nurse from Ernakulam, Kerala.

Sowmya was among the 500-odd people, half of them South Asian, who marched through central Dublin on July 26, calling attention towards the recent spate of attacks against Indians in Ireland. Walking from the city hall to the gate of Leinster House, the seat of Parliament, the protesters carried placards and shouted slogans.

The march took place after an Indian was attacked in the south-western suburb of Tallaght in Dublin on July 19. The attackers allegedly removed the victim's pants and underwear and posted a video on social media, accusing him of being a paedophile. A man driving past also took a video of the victim, whose face was covered in blood. In the video, the victim can be seen trying to pull his jacket down to cover himself and the man shouting, "Get the f*** out of this state".

Jennifer Murray, 42, a resident of Tallaght, was driving when she found the victim. In a video she later shared on social media, to "debunk the rumours about him," Jennifer said he kept insisting he was not a paedophile as she covered him with a blanket lying in her car's boot.

She took him to the Tallaght University Hospital, and then to the house where he was staying with an Indian family. She learnt that he works at Amazon and had come to Ireland only a week prior. "They have a newborn. The wife there told me how he was doing all the cooking to allow her to rest after her childbirth. He is truly a kind man," she said in the video.

"The attackers were teenagers, whose frontal lobes haven't been developed yet. They have learnt the knife culture, and are influenced by online misinformation," she told *The Hindu*.

Jennifer claimed that over the last few weeks, there were four similar attacks in the neighbourhood, but they were not reported by the media.

Her video opened a can of worms. Indians living in Ireland began to share on WhatsApp groups harrowing stories of racial abuse, largely perpetuated by adolescents and teenagers.

On the margins

Since Brexit, Ireland has become a popular destination for India's economic migrants. There are currently 80,000 Indians living in Ireland, marking a 300% jump over the last decade. According to 2023 data from the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland, 17% of nurses and midwives registered to work are Indian citizens.

The Irish government has also been wooing Indians to pursue higher education in the green isle. Earlier this year, while James Lawless, the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation, and Science, was visiting Indian cities as part of St Patrick's Day celebrations, his office issued a statement. It said that over 9,000 Indian students make up 13.1% of Ireland's international student population.

At the same time, many Irish nationals have moved out of Ireland, seeking better opportunities in the face of the high cost of living and a growing housing crisis. Alongside the influx of Indians and people of other nationalities, and the out-migration of Irish nationals, anti-migrant rhetoric and attacks have increased, especially in marginalised areas such as Tallaght.

> We have a history of denying people's experience of racism by gaslighting them
>
> **RUTH COPPINGER**
> MP from Ireland's Socialist Party

Tallaght was once largely rural. It was developed as a town in the 1960s, but without adequate facilities or job prospects. Last year, a survey by a group of principals, describing themselves as the Deis Cluster Advocacy Group, found that nearly half the primary schoolchildren in some of Dublin's most socio-economically disadvantaged communities, in areas such as West Tallaght, Ballymun, and Darndale, have suffered major personal trauma. This includes homelessness, the loss of a close family member, or witnessing a violent death. This year, a school in Tallaght nearly shut down when funds earmarked for schools in socio-economically disadvantaged communities were cut.

Over time, expanding housing estates in Tallaght have accommodated Indians working in the Information Technology sector. The availability of nursing jobs at the Tallaght University Hospital has led to a surge in the Indian population. Tallaght became home to Ireland's first Saravana Bhavan outlet in April this year.

It is the open area surrounding Tallaght's mall where Indians have suffered violence at the hands of teenagers, said Anil (name changed), who lives in the apartment complex where the victim of the July 19 attack was staying.

Anil has been living in Ireland for over a decade. Instead of walking to the grocery store, he now takes his car. "Teenagers hang out there on Friday and Saturday evenings. Indians here have been advising each other to only step out in groups. The miscreants are sometimes as young as 10 years. They are arrogant, because nobody is teaching them to behave differently," he said.

Pradeep, who has lived in Ireland for eight years, bought a flat in Tallaght two years ago. His wife Radhika joined him later. In the last three months in particular, the couple has been hearing about violence against Indians in the neighbourhood. "We have met nurses who were attacked with water guns while returning home from work. The boys who attacked them were quite young," Radhika said. She added that the girls accompanying the boys are often seen making videos of these scenes and laughing.

A string of attacks

Since July 19, there have been many similar attacks in Dublin. Lakhvir Singh, a taxi driver, was attacked by his passengers on a Saturday night with a beer bottle that left his face bleeding. Data scientist Santosh Jadav put up a post on LinkedIn saying he was attacked outside his home and suffered a fractured cheekbone. The Irish media reported that Laxman Das, a sous chef, was attacked one morning by three men who also stole his e-scooter and wallet. The media also reported that in Waterford, three hours south of Dublin, six-year-old Nia Naveen was punched on her face, hit by a bicycle on her private parts, and told to go home by a bunch of older boys, when she was out playing. Except for Santosh, all the victims are reportedly naturalised citizens.

The protesters walked from the city hall to the gate of Leinster House, the seat of Parliament, in Dublin.. PRIYANKA BORPUJARI

In these cases, while complaints were allegedly filed with Gardaí Síochána (the Irish police), no arrests have been made yet. WhatsApp groups have been abuzz with stories of being told off by the Gardaí when the attackers are teenagers.

Many also complained about how the Indian Embassy in Ireland has largely been non-responsive. It was only on August 1 – two weeks after the violence in Tallaght and after similar incidents – that the Embassy issued a travel advisory saying Indians living in Ireland must "take reasonable precautions for their personal security and avoid deserted areas, especially in odd hours". The local media too reported on these attacks and mentioned the protest march in Dublin.

That march lasted close to two hours with speeches from local politicians, a few Indians, and trade union leaders. Nine Indians said that this was the first demonstration they had participated in. A few men wore neon vests to indicate that they were volunteers keeping everyone safe.

Nithya Kothenmaril, a PhD researcher, has attended several anti-racism marches in Dublin. She chose to live on her university campus for safety. "But recently, two young boys sprayed me with water. I was shocked," she said. "But what shocked me more was that a white woman walking near me did not say anything. I was stressed all day that this had happened on campus."

Most of the Indian diaspora groups gathers together only for cultural events, Nithya rued. "This is unlike the black community that gets together to discuss issues of justice. Given the big number of Indians in Ireland, their participation in the march is rather low," she said.

Fearmongering

In April 2024, Ireland's estimated population was 5.38 million, crossing the 5 million-mark for the first time since the 1840s. The Central Statistics Office found that more than 1 lakh people had migrated to Ireland between 2021 and 2024. Now, 15.5% of the country's population are citizens of other countries.

Attacks on tourists, as well as targeted racist attacks, have risen in recent years. In 2020, George Nkencho, a young black man who had allegedly been suffering from mental health issues and had threatened people with a knife inside a shop, was killed by Gardaí. The incident galvanised the Black Lives Matter movement in Ireland.

"During the pandemic, the far-right grew on the back of the anti-vaccine movement," explained Ruth Coppinger, the Teachta Dála (Member of Parliament) from Ireland's Socialist Party. "The shock that came with the pandemic led to an increase in anti-authoritarian sentiment. The Internet has allowed the far-right to portray migrants as criminals and people are believing this."

In recent times, several politicians have won local elections riding on anti-immigrant rhetoric, by claiming that migrants have been prioritised for social housing and health benefits. Last year, a planned asylum centre was torched thrice in Coolock in north-east Dublin.

It was allegedly online rumours that led to riots in Dublin on November 23, 2023, following the stabbing of children outside a primary school in Parnell Square, a multicultural area. Rumours began to fly online about the identity of the attacker and members of the far-right urged people to take to the streets. The hashtag #IrelandIsFull went viral. That evening, a large crowd gathered in the area, vandalising shops and vehicles, and assaulting Gardaí personnel. Eyewitnesses described the rioters as youth in their early 20s. By July 2024, up to 49 people, including several women, were arrested in connection to the riots. No leader was booked for spreading rumours.

> The attackers were teenagers, whose frontal lobes haven't been developed yet. They have learnt the knife culture, and are influenced by online misinformation
>
> **JENNIFER MURRAY**
> Resident of Tallaght who rescued a man who had been assaulted

According to Darragh Adelaide, a councillor from the People Before Profit party, the youth wing of the far-right National Party has been specifically targeting young men who feel alienated. Darragh grew up in the working-class area of Clondalkin in the west of Dublin, which is now his political constituency. He has seen the area grow over the years, with people from different countries living there. At the same time, austerity cuts in the past few years have impacted single-parent families and access to education, he said.

"There have been times when buses have refused to ply on the streets in Clondalkin because of anti-social behaviour. The dropout rate is high, and fascist leaders prey on people for petty jobs. The far-right has somehow conveyed the idea of scarcity and the government has been silent on this," Darragh said. Growing up with a Nigerian father and an Irish mother, he said racism always existed in Ireland, but it was never this violent.

A change in the system

During her speech at the protest on July 26, Ruth acknowledged the labour shortage, and blamed the government for bending backwards to accommodate people from Ukraine fleeing from the war, even as the number of homeless people in Ireland has been steadily increasing each year.

However, law and order measures alone won't solve racism, she said. "When people from different countries began to come here 25 years ago and faced racist slurs, Gardaí would dismiss them saying this can happen to anyone. We have a history of denying people's experience of racism by gaslighting them," she said.

This year, a study by the Irish Network Against Racism reported how people of African descent and Brazilians experienced discriminatory policing, racial profiling, and a lack of trust in Gardaí. Fear of not being taken seriously, potential repercussions, and previous negative experiences have deterred many from reporting crimes. Darragh said that while the government wants to bestow more power to Gardaí, it is not using the power it already has to combat hate crimes.

On August 22, while speaking at a graduation ceremony, the Garda Commissioner, Drew Harris, said that the recent attacks on Indians are being driven by racism, criminality, and the targeting of vulnerable people.

Feljin Jose, a councillor for the Green Party, who moved to Ireland from Kochi in Kerala at the age of nine, emphasised the importance of reporting crimes to Gardaí. "Many people are not aware of how the system works and how to respond when a crime takes place. A person must go to the Garda station and insist on filing a statement. However, there is often no evidence. When juveniles are involved, it becomes complicated. There is a lot more leniency towards them."

He explained how such violence picks up during school vacations and during long evenings. "The people committing such crimes are almost always from disadvantaged groups. There are very little youth resources and investments being made in something that could be productive for children. Even if there are such investments, change will take time," he added.

Immigration consultant Senthil Ramasamy, who has been living in Ireland for 25 years, said that he had sent emails about the recent attacks to various Ministers and the Garda commissioner. The Minister for Justice, Jim O'Callaghan, responded mentioning the government's policy on crimes committed by youth. Community-based youth crime prevention initiatives attempt to divert young people at risk of being involved in criminal behaviour. After a few steps of investigation and recommendations, an offender is referred to the Garda Youth Diversion Programme. Repeat offenders are investigated separately, and the Director of Public Prosecutions decides if a person should be charged.

Jim also told the media, "Regrettably, very many of the offences appear to be perpetrated by persons under the age of 18 and that does pose a particular challenge for us within the criminal justice system, to ensure that individuals who are under 18, who commit criminal offences, are brought before our courts, and face sanction."

Legislating hate speech

There are also no provisions to legislate hate speech, which compounds the problem. In May, the European Commission suggested that Ireland was failing to comply with European Union rules on combating racism and xenophobia.

On August 11, a delegation from the Federation of Indian Communities in Ireland and Ireland India Council met with Tánaiste (deputy Prime Minister) Simon Harris. They demanded a deeper engagement between Gardaí, local leaders, and youth outreach organisations to address the racially motivated violence, as well as a review of the juvenile justice framework to ensure that serious violent behaviour, including hate-motivated actions, does not go unchecked.

Meanwhile, Jennifer is being felicitated by different groups of the Indian diaspora. "I am just a mam [mother] who helped an injured man," she said. "We don't want to believe our own people are capable of this. They do not represent the Ireland that I want my children to grow up in. We have been foreigners in other lands in the past, and our people too faced discrimination. This is our opportunity now as Irish people to make others feel safe in our presence."

Priyanka Borpujari is a freelance journalist based in Dublin

From Page One

Help EC bring back Bihar voters left out: SC

Justice Bagchi remarked that with the inclusion of Aadhaar as a relevant document in the claims-and-objections stage, the EC may need more time to complete the verification of the pleas filed for inclusion in the electoral roll.

At one point, the court seemed to blame the political parties for not taking the initiative to assist the voters, and for bringing things to such a pass at the eleventh hour.

"We are surprised why the parties are not doing anything. Political workers are the best persons in rural areas and villages. Why is there a distance between the people and the local political workers?" Justice Kant asked.

The EC, represented by senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi, criticised political parties for taking a contrarian view about the SIR. He assured the court that no eligible voter would be left out of the electoral process.

"Political parties have 1.6 lakh BLAs. Each BLA can verify 10 excluded names on the list. That would be 16 lakh names a day. It will take only five days for BLAs to verify the list. This is in addition to individual excluded voters also coming forward to file claims," Mr. Dwivedi said, conveying the EC's optimism in court.

84,305 claims so far

He said that 84,305 claims have been initiated so far. Over 2.5 lakh new voters who have recently reached the age of 18 in Bihar have come forward to join the electors' ranks, signalling the groundswell to join the electoral process.

"Political parties merely raise hue and cry to serve their political ends... Political parties could appoint more BLAs, but they will not," Mr. Dwivedi said, expressing the poll body's disappointment with the conduct of the parties.

The Bench said that claims and objections may not come from all the 65 lakh excluded voters. It quoted the EC's figures that 22 lakh among the 65 lakh were dead, while 36 lakh had migrated out of Bihar, and eight lakh were duplicate entries on the roll. "So, it is just that names from the migrated 36 lakh have to come forward with claims," Justice Kant summarised.

SC modifies order, allows release of stray dogs

However, an absolute prohibition on their release would run contrary to Rule 11(19) of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023, framed under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

"The directions to the extent that they prohibit the release of the picked up strays, shall be kept in abeyance for the time being. The dogs that are picked up shall be sterilised, dewormed, vaccinated, and released back to the same area from which they were picked up," the Bench ordered.

However, the court clarified that this would not apply to dogs infected or suspected to be infected with rabies, or those displaying aggressive behaviour. "Such dogs shall be sterilised and immunised, but under no circumstances should they be released back on the streets. As far as possible, they shall be housed in separate pounds or shelters after sterilisation and immunisation," the Bench said, describing its approach as a "balancing exercise."

Feeding zones

The court also directed municipal authorities to set up dedicated feeding zones in every ward to ensure that no inconvenience is caused due to the feeding of strays in public spaces. It noted that the measure was necessitated by reports of "untoward incidents" caused by unregulated feeding, which had created "great difficulties for the common man walking on the streets".

Notably, the court expanded the ambit of the proceedings beyond the Delhi-National Capital Region (NCR), directing that the matter be treated as a pan-India issue to facilitate the framing of a uniform national policy. It accordingly ordered the impleadment of the Secretaries of the relevant departments of all States and Union Territories in the proceedings.

The Bench also said it would transfer to itself similar petitions pending before various High Courts to prevent multiplicity of proceedings.

Former Sri Lankan President arrested

Mr. Wickremesinghe, leader of the centre-right United National Party, one of Sri Lanka's oldest political parties, was elected President in an urgent Parliamentary vote after former President Gotabaya Rajapaksa quit office in July 2022, in the wake of a citizens' uprising sparked by an economic crash.

Mr. Wickremesinghe helmed the country's top office for two years, and is credited with steering the crisis-hit island nation towards recovery. He ran for the presidency in 2024, and lost to Anura Kumara Dissanayake, who won on an anti-corruption plank.

Former President Maithripala Sirisena, several politicians and Opposition parliamentarians, including Namal Rajapaksa, son of former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, were seen at the Colombo Magistrate Court, expressing support to the arrested leader. Minister of Public Security Ananda Wijepala told Parliament that the law was being "applied equally" to everyone.

Forest rights of tribals not settled for Great Nicobar project: council

Tribal representatives' body complains to Minister; says Andaman and Nicobar administration gave a 'false' report to Centre stating that tribespeople's rights under FRA were settled with regard to diversion of forest land for the ₹72,000-cr. project

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The proposed project on the islands will include a transshipment port, an airport, a power plant, and a township. ISTOCKPHOTO

The Andaman and Nicobar Islands administration made a false representation to the Centre claiming that rights of the tribal people under the Forest Rights Act, 2006, had been "identified and settled", which eventually led to forest clearances being granted for the ₹72,000-crore mega infrastructure project on the Great Nicobar Islands, a council representing the Nicobarese has said in a complaint to Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Jual Oram.

The proposed Great Nicobar Island Project will include a transshipment port, an airport, a power plant, and a township.

Local tribespeople had raised several concerns, including the diversion of nearly 13,075 hectares of forest land for the project and its impact on vulnerable groups in the area.

Soon after taking charge in 2024, Mr. Oram told *The Hindu* that his Ministry would look into the issues raised by them.

Earlier this year, he said their concerns are "being examined", without going into the details.

Certificate issued

"In the last two months, we have found that the administration in A&NI issued a certificate in 2022 saying the FRA rights were identified and settled, and that the consent for diversion of forest land was taken only after this," a member of the Tribal Council of Little Nicobar and Great Nicobar told *The Hindu* on Friday.

The council is the key representative body of the Nicobarese on the islands, and has been interacting with the administration on various issues.

The council, in a letter to Mr. Oram dated July 21, clarified that it had not given its consent for the project. "We write to you to inform that the process of settlement of forest rights under the FRA has not even been initiated. Therefore, there is no question of forest rights being settled." The council said it had recently been made aware of an August 2022 "certificate", issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Nicobar District that claimed the opposite.

According to this forest diversion certificate under the FRA issued on August 18, 2022, a copy of which was seen by *The Hindu*, the administration said: "The complete process for identification and settlement of rights under the FRA has been carried out for the entire protected forest area of 121.87 sq. km. and deemed forest of 8.8 sq. km. falling under the project."

However, as reported by *The Hindu* earlier, the Union Territory administration has told the Ministry in its monthly reports that it need not implement the FRA on the islands as the forests there are already protected under the Protection of Aboriginal Tribes Act of 1956 (PAT56).

While the PAT56 gives the administrator of the islands full authority to divert forest land, the FRA allows such diversion only after rights are first settled and then consent is taken from the Gram Sabhas concerned. It was not clear if the diversion of forest land for the project was made under the FRA or PAT56.

The Centre has maintained that due process was followed for getting clearances. A Gram Sabha meeting held on August 12, 2022, had consented to the diversion of forest land, it said. However, the council says the Nicobarese of Great Nicobar were not part of the meeting.

'Exploring options'

A council member who spoke to *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity said, "We are waiting for the Minister to reply. If it does not come, we will see what other options are available to us." The member said the council's complaint was marked delivered by the post office on July 30, adding that it had also sent an email to Mr. Oram's office but was yet to get a response.

'India-China trade through Lipulekh unacceptable'

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

A decision by India and China to restart border trade through the Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand has come under fire in Nepal, as it lies in the contested Kalapani-Lipulekh-Limpiyadhura region, which is claimed by Nepal.

This development is "unexpected and unacceptable" to Nepal, but Kathmandu will not let it disrupt dialogue with India, said a leading member of Nepali Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli's party, the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist.

India and China took the decision on border trade during the August 18 and 19 visit of Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi to Delhi, at a time when South Block had also extended an invitation to the Nepali Prime Minister to visit India. "This kind of an agreement between India and China is unexpected and unacceptable to us," said Pradeep Gyawali, CPN-UML deputy general secretary.

On the draw

Court rejects plea against registration of waqfs

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday refused to urgently list for hearing an interim plea challenging mandatory registration of all waqfs, including waqf-by-users on the UMEED portal.

Details of all registered waqf properties across India are to be mandatorily uploaded on the portal within six months.

"We have already reserved the order in the matter," Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai said.

INBRIEF

Kovind to be the chief guest at RSS centenary event on Oct. 2

Former President Ram Nath Kovind will be the chief guest at the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's (RSS) centenary year 'Vijayadasami' celebrations scheduled on October 2. In a communique, the Sangh's Nagpur chief Rajesh Loya said that the RSS will celebrate its 100th foundation day at Reshimbagh ground in Nagpur where RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat will address the audience in his customary speech. "Mr. Kovind will be the chief guest of the event," the RSS said on its X handle. Mr. Kovind will be the second former President of India to be invited to RSS events. Prior to this, former President Pranab Mukherjee had attended one of the Sangh's events in 2018. Appointed President in 2017, Mr. Kovind's term ended in 2022.

Allotment of land in Leh for Wangchuk's institute cancelled

The Ladakh administration has cancelled the land allotment made in 2018 to climate activist Sonam Wangchuk's institute in Phyang village, Leh. Mr. Wangchuk, an education reformer has been the face of protests in Ladakh for the past three years and had recently joined a three-day hunger strike in Kargil to demand constitutional safeguards for the region. An order from the Deputy Commissioner of Leh said that the land was allotted to the Himalayan Institute of Alternative Learning on lease for 40 years, adding that the land has not been used for the purpose for which it was allotted "as no University (as recognised by law) has been set up" till date. Any encumbrances on the land would be removed and the administration would take over, the order said. Mr. Wangchuk could not be reached for a comment.

Man tries to scale wall of Parliament complex, held

A security breach occurred at Parliament on Friday morning when a 20-year-old man attempted to scale the boundary wall of the complex and jump inside it, officials said. The man was apprehended and handed over to the police. "Today around 5.50 a.m., one person, while at the boundary wall of Parliament House, probably attempting to scale it, was promptly apprehended by alert CISF and Delhi Police staff. He seems mentally incoherent," a Delhi Police officer said. The officer added that the man has been identified as Ram Kumar from Uttar Pradesh's Bhadohi district and works in a factory in Surat, Gujarat. Sources said that multiple Central agencies, including the Intelligence Bureau and the Special Cell of Delhi Police, are questioning the man to determine his motive.

SC orders status quo in Sambhal mosque row

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered status quo till August 25 in the Sambhal mosque row after a brief hearing which saw the Hindu plaintiffs and the mosque's management spar over whether the site came under the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act of 1991 or was a protected monument under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

A Bench headed by Justice P.S. Narasimha was hearing a petition filed by the mosque management challenging a May order of the Allahabad High Court which had upheld a civil court's order appointing an Advocate Commissioner to survey the mosque.

Justice Narasimha, on perusing the case records, said the Bench has to go through the reasoning in the High Court before taking a call on whether such a survey would be backed by virtue of the 1991 Act or the 1958 one.

The Hindu plaintiffs have argued that the mosque is an "Archaeological Survey of India-protected monument" but the mosque management has said the 1991 Act would apply.

SC restrains Assam Police from taking action against journalists of *The Wire*

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday protected senior journalists Siddharth Varadarajan, Karan Thapar and members of the Foundation for Independent Journalism, which publishes *The Wire* online platform, from any coercive action by the Assam Police's Crime Branch in an FIR invoking sedition charges against them.

The order was passed by a Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi.

Facing repeated FIRs

Senior advocate Nitya Ramakrishnan, appearing for the petitioners, said her clients apprehend the repeated lodging of FIRs against them. Journalists' organisations had protested the sedition charges invoked against the senior journalists.

The top court had protected Mr. Varadarajan and members of the Foundation from "imminent arrest" on August 12 in another FIR registered under Section 152 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which punishes "acts endangering sovereignty, unity and integrity of India", by the Morigaon police station in Assam for the publication of an article.

Similar to sedition law

The petitioners had argued that the BNS provision was in essence the same as the colonial Section 124A (sedition) of the erstwhile Indian Penal Code (IPC).

The operation of Section 124A had been kept in abeyance by the top court and referred to a Constitution Bench for judicial scrutiny and an authoritative pronouncement. "They are continuously slapping us with FIRs," Ms. Ramakrishnan submitted.

The senior counsel said the summons on the Crime Branch FIR, also under Section 152 of the BNS, was issued on August 12, the same day the top court protected them for arrest in the Morigaon case.

"We hope and expect everyone to follow the law," Justice Surya Kant remarked.

Withdraw FIR against Abhisar Sharma, says PCI

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Press Club of India (PCI) on Friday demanded withdrawal of an FIR lodged by the Assam Police against journalist Abhisar Sharma. The police have accused Mr. Sharma of making remarks with "mala fide intent to disrepute elected governments", provoking communal sentiments and threatening national integrity. "The FIR has invoked the draconian Section 152 (sedition), along with Sections 196 (promoting enmity and disharmony) and 197 (imputations against national integration) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita...," the PCI said.

In a statement, it accused the Assam police of turning "a blind eye in not taking cognisance of what the apex court has directed in a similar case pertaining to *The Wire* editors".

Congress, RJD against Bill for jailing the corrupt: PM

Narendra Modi says the Constitution expects honesty and transparency from every citizen of the country; PM, during his poll pitch, vows to throw 'infiltrators' out and asks people to 'keep an eye'

Amarnath Tewary
GAYA JI

Signalling that corruption could be among one of the poll issues in the Bihar election later this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, tabled in Parliament before the Monsoon Session ended, will ensure that "every corrupt person will go to jail, whether he is PM or CM".

Mr. Modi, who was in Gaya Ji, said the government will send every "infiltrator" out of the country and that the people of Bihar should "keep an eye" on those "giving shelter to infiltrators, and protecting and supporting them".

The Prime Minister, who addressed his sixth public meeting in the State, recalled the promise he had made from Madhubani after the Pahalgam attack. "I had said that we will destroy the terrorists, and I did that," he said.

Alleging that the Congress and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) led corrupt governments, Mr. Modi said the "Constitution expects honesty and transparency from every citizen of the country".

Poll bugle: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, and Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary during a public meeting in Gaya Ji on Friday. PTI

"The NDA government is bringing in a new law that will have the Prime Minister and Chief Ministers under its purview. If found guilty, they will be removed," Mr. Modi said, adding that the "Bill will bring morality back to politics".

"We are moving forward with such a law, but the Congress, RJD and Opposition parties are against it. Everyone knows why and what they are scared of," Mr. Modi said.

Referring to the presence of alleged infiltrators in some border districts of Bihar, Mr. Modi said, "Infiltration has been a cause of concern for Bihar. The demographic profile of many districts has changed. We will not let this happen."

Demographic changes

The Prime Minister said the government will "remove every infiltrator from this country".

He, however, made no reference to the controversial special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar that has created chaos and confusion among the voters.

Mr. Modi inaugurated and unveiled 14 projects worth ₹12,992 crore in the State. The six-lane Aunta (Mokama)-Simaria (Begusarai) bridge over the Ganga, built at an estimated cost of ₹1,871 crore on National Highway-31, was also opened.

Giving a report card of sorts, he said that "till now, four crore pucca houses have already been distributed to poor people in the country".

Mr. Modi slammed the previous RJD-Congress government for depriving the "people of Bihar of development and growth".

SC directive on Bihar SIR has discredited, exposed EC: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday welcomed the latest Supreme Court directive on the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, claiming "democracy has survived a brutal assault from the Election Commission (EC)".

Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh, in a post on X, said the poll body stood "totally exposed and discredited". He said the Supreme Court had laid down guardrails to make the revision more inclusive by including political parties in the process.

"The INC welcomes today's verdict of the Supreme Court on the Bihar SIR issue. Democracy has survived a brutal assault from the Election Commission of India," Mr. Ramesh said.

He said that on August 14, the Supreme Court had intervened to set aside the EC's decision to withhold the list of deleted voters and had directed the poll body to publish it along with the reasons for such deletions.

"On August 14th, the Supreme Court had also directed the EC to accept Aadhaar cards as proof of identity for those deleted. Today it reaffirmed Aadhaar as a valid ID that the EC MUST accept. Today,

Jairam Ramesh

the Supreme Court has laid down guardrails to make the revision more inclusive by including political parties in the process," Mr. Ramesh said.

"So far the EC's approach has been obstructionist and contrary to the interests of the voters. We welcome this judgment especially because it gives us an enforceable right which the EC cannot ignore. Today, the EC stands totally exposed and discredited. Its G2 puppeteers stand decisively defeated," he added.

On Friday, the top court allowed claim forms to be submitted along with Aadhaar card numbers and any one of the 11 acceptable documents in the SIR.

Expressing surprise over political parties not coming forward to file objections related to 65 lakh excluded voters, the court directed the Chief Electoral Officer of Bihar to implead them in the court proceedings.

INBRIEF

I-Tax Act, 2025 gets President Droupadi Murmu's assent

President Droupadi Murmu has given her assent to the Income-tax Act, 2025, which will replace the archaic Income Tax Act, 1961. The Income Tax Act, 2025, will come into effect from the next financial year, beginning April 1, 2026. The new Act will make tax laws simple and reduce wordage in the legislation, making it easy to understand. The Income Tax Bill, 2025, was passed by Parliament on August 12. The new Act does not impose any new tax rate and only simplifies the language, which was required for understanding the complex Income Tax laws. The new law removes redundant provisions and archaic language and reduces the number of Sections from 819 in the I-T Act of 1961 to 536 and the number of chapters from 47 to 23. PTI

40% of Chief Ministers face criminal cases: ADR report

Of the 30 Chief Ministers in the country, 12 of them, or 40%, declared criminal cases against themselves, according to a new report by poll rights body Association for Democratic Reforms. Telangana CM Revanth Reddy has declared 89 cases against him, the highest, followed by Tamil Nadu CM M.K. Stalin, who declared 47. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis declared four cases, Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan declared two, and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann declared one case. According to the report by the ADR, 10, or 33%, of the CMs have declared serious criminal cases, including cases related to attempt to murder, kidnapping, bribery, and criminal intimidation against them. PTI

J&K L-G Sinha sacks two govt. employees under Article 311

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday terminated the services of two government employees after security agencies' reports suggested their involvement in anti-national activities in the Union Territory. Invoking special provisions of Article 311, which do not require any departmental inquiry, the orders issued by the L-G administration terminated the services of Khurshid Ahmad Rather, a teacher, and Siyad Ahmad Khan, an assistant stockman in the Sheep Husbandry Department. Mr. Rather was teaching in a school close to the Line of Control in Kupwara. The L-G has terminated 77 government employees since amended provisions of Article 311 were introduced in 2020 in J&K.

Congress caught in its own web over vote theft: Fadnavis

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday launched a sharp attack on the Congress, accusing it of hypocrisy over its claims of "vote theft".

He said fresh revelations by BJP MLA Atul Bhosale from Satara district had exposed how Congress leaders themselves were involved in irregular voting during last year's Assembly election.

Speaking to reporters in Mumbai, Mr. Fadnavis alleged that Mr. Bhosale had presented evidence showing that relatives and close aides of former Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Prithviraj Chavan had cast votes in more than one constituency. Mr.

Devendra Fadnavis

Bhosale had defeated Mr. Chavan in the Karad South seat during the November 2024 election.

"Our MLA has shown how they [Congress] themselves indulged in vote *chori* (theft). Now it is up to Rahul Gandhi to explain these revelations," he said.

The remarks come in response to Mr. Gandhi's earlier allegations of "vote *chori*".

Modi govt. has closed all paths of employment for youth, says Rahul

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday continued his attack on the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the Election Commission, during the 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bhagalpur, amid the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise under way in Bihar.

Mr. Gandhi, while addressing a public meeting in Kahalgaon, alleged that names of people who vote for the Opposition were being removed during the SIR.

"Today, vote thief Narendra Modi came to Gaya and talked about the SIR. But he did not speak about the one lakh fake votes that surfaced in Karnataka's Mahadevapura Assembly constituency. He did not speak about the elections in Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra," Mr. Gandhi said.

He further said, "The truth is that the BJP and the Election Commissioner are together stealing your votes." The Congress leader called on stage Amarnath Jaiswal, a youth from Ayodhya, to speak on the ordeal of serving the armed forces under the Agnipath scheme.

The young man expressed his anger towards the Modi government as he was forced to quit in two years after losing a finger during his service. "Narendra Modi has closed all paths for the youth. Earlier, millions of our youth used to join the Army. They protected the country, received pensions, and were taken care of. Today, an Agniveer has lost his finger, but no help is being provided to him. He has been sent back home," Mr. Gandhi said.

Public outreach: Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi greets people during 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' in Bihar on Friday. PTI

Tejashwi targets Nitish

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav, who accompanied the Congress leader, asked people to change the "government of the cheater".

"People of Bihar will teach lessons to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. There is no employment in the State and people want change," Mr. Yadav said.

West Bengal being a border State faces threat of infiltration, says Modi

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Emphasising that infiltrators are putting pressure on the country's resources, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday urged the people of West Bengal to vote for the BJP to free the State of infiltrators.

"Your one vote can make Bengal free from infiltrators. We have limited resources and have to provide employment to our youth. The infiltrators are putting pressures on our resources and infrastructure. They are also posing a threat to our women. We will not allow them to stay in India," he said, addressing a gathering at Dum Dum in Kolkata.

The Assembly polls in the State are due next year.

Mr. Modi referred to the launch of a demographic mission, and said West Bengal being a border State faced threat of infiltration. Alleging that West Bengal's demography was changing due to infiltration, he said parties such as the Trinamool Congress and the Congress were supporting infiltrators for appeasement politics.

Faster transport: School students onboard a newly launched Metro train at Sealdah Metro station in Kolkata on Friday. PTI

Mr. Modi's remarks come at a time when hundreds of migrant workers from the State have alleged detention and harassment on the suspicion of being Bangladeshis. Many of the migrant workers were forced to return to the State. The Trinamool had described such detentions as an attack on Bengali language and identity, and had called for a sustained movement against the drive.

During the day, the Prime Minister inaugurated Metro rail services along three stretches – Green, Yellow and Orange lines – in the city.

He also laid the foundation stone for various projects in the State and inaugurated a few, in all worth over ₹5,200 crore.

Mr. Modi criticised the Trinamool government and said that it posed a huge obstacle to the "development of Bengal because the money sent by the Centre to the State government doesn't reach the people". "That money is spent on the Trinamool cadre," he added.

NITI Aayog report recommends model policy for homestays

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The NITI Aayog's report on "Rethinking Homestays: Navigating Policy Pathways", released in New Delhi on Friday, aims at advancing a framework that States can adopt to harmonise regulations and establish an inclusive homestay ecosystem in the country.

The planning body believes that alternative accommodation such as homestays is an opportunity with immense economic potential that can help in promoting sustainable growth of India's tourism sector. The report offers a "strategic road map" to unlock the potential of homestays and Bed and Breakfast (BnB) providers in India's tourism landscape.

NITI Aayog said in a statement that the report draws insights from aggregators, hosts, and policymakers and highlights the role of homestays in offering travellers "culturally immersive experiences" while fostering local entrepreneurship and employment generation. "It emphasises the need for light-touch, transparent regulatory frameworks that ensure the safety of tourists and homeowners, protect heritage, and support inclusive, sustainable economic growth," it said.

The panel also recommended financial incentives for promoting tourism at the destination level rather than focusing solely on individual homestay amenities.

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INBRIEF

Army chief to visit Algeria to boost bilateral defence ties

Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi will embark on an official visit to Algeria next week, marking his first overseas tour after Operation Sindoor. The visit underscores the Indian Army's expanding role in advancing New Delhi's strategic partnerships abroad. The trip follows recent visits by the President and the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) to Algiers, which laid the base for deeper bilateral cooperation. According to a statement from the Indian Army, General Dwivedi, during his stay, is expected to focus on strengthening Army-to-Army ties, expanding training exchanges, and exploring avenues for defence capability development. The Army chief will also share India's approach of "zero tolerance" towards terrorism.

Tiger found dead with paw missing in Madhya Pradesh

A tiger has been found dead with a paw missing in Narmadapuram district of Madhya Pradesh, on the boundary of the Satpura Tiger Reserve (STR), forest officials said on Friday. STR Field Director Rakhi Nanda told *The Hindu* that the tiger was found drowned in the backwaters of Tawa river in Badh Chapda. "We suspect it to be a case of poaching after our preliminary investigation. We have conducted its post-mortem as per the NTCA (National Tiger Conservation Authority) guidelines and further investigation is now under way," she said. A case has been registered under the relevant provisions.

Draft UGC curriculum puts focus on 'ancient wisdom'

Framework suggests exploring contributions of Indian mathematicians, and inclusion of 'Bharatiya philosophy' in commerce, traditional beverages in chemistry, and *dharmic* thought in economics

A. M. Jigeesh
NEW DELHI

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has released draft Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) for anthropology, chemistry, commerce, economics, geography, home science, mathematics, physical education, and political science.

The LOCF lays stress on the inclusion of Indian knowledge systems in each subject. The UGC has invited feedback from stakeholders on the LOCF. This new curriculum comes at a time when the non-BJP-ruled States are protesting against the focus on these systems on grounds of alleged 'saffronisation' of the curriculum.

While the LOCF on chemistry starts with a salutation to Saraswati, the commerce curriculum suggests colleges to teach Kautilya's *Arthshastra*. V.D. Savarkar's *Indian War of Independence* has found a place in the reading list for the course on 'Bharatiya Struggle for Independence'.

Though the National Education Policy promotes multidisciplinary courses and holistic education, the LOCF prioritises single-major pathways and most credits are allocated to discipline-specific courses, leaving limited room for multidisciplinary exploration.

The University Grants Commission has sought feedback from stakeholders on the draft curriculum framework. S. MAHINSHA

Every LOCF speaks in detail about how Indian systems should be added in the studies.

Mandala geometry and *yantras*, *rangoli*, and *kolam* as algorithmic art forms, temple architecture and *āyādi* ratios will be included in courses on mathematics.

The objectives include exploring the foundational contributions of Indian mathematicians to arithmetic, geometry, algebra, and calculus, and analysing key mathematical concepts and techniques developed in India and their applications.

'Bharatiya philosophy' will be added in commerce education. "Commerce education must incorporate the holistic learning approach derived from Bharatiya philosophy. The ancient Gurukul system emphasised the all-round development of individuals, encompassing physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual growth. These values, when applied to commerce, promote ethical decision-making, responsible leadership, and sustainable business practices," the LOCF said, adding that Kautilya's *Arthashastra* provides insights into trade regulations, governance, and financial management, which remain relevant today.

Indian concepts of wealth and prosperity in *dharmic* thought; role of the king in economy; trade and labour ethics; guild codes and collective enterprise; ecological and agrarian values; principles of *dana* and indigenous exchange systems will be taught in economics courses.

In chemistry, in a module on "Chemistry of Alcoholic Beverages", traditional Indian fermented beverages and preparation methods for *kanji*, *mahua*, toddy and chemical reactions involved in the conversion of sugars to ethanol during fermentation will be taught. Chemistry will have a brief idea of ancient Indian knowledge of *Parmanu*. In a unit on atomic structure, recapitulation of concept of atom in ancient India will be taught along with Bohr's theory and its limitations.

On anthropology, the curriculum says ancient thinkers like Charaka, Sushruta, Buddha, and Mahavira have long discussed the symbiotic relationship between nature and culture, offering indigenous perspectives on concepts central to anthropology.

Rising civilian traffic strains IAF airfields as AAI expansion lags

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

39 Indian Air Force airfields have been opened for civilian flights under the UDAN scheme

The Airports Authority of India's failure to expand facilities at Indian Air Force (IAF) airfields which have been opened up for civilian operations is hampering the growing volume of civilian traffic, a senior Defence Ministry official said on Friday.

This could also potentially impact regular IAF activities, as the service is providing significant technical support for the civilian operations, the official added.

To promote regional air connectivity under the UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme, the Ministries of Civil Aviation and Defence had agreed that the IAF would provide facilities such as runways, air traffic control, and firefighting systems, while the AAI would operate the civilian terminals.

Bay shortage

The senior official said that 39 IAF airfields – including Hindon (Ghaziabad), Jodhpur, Kanpur, Leh, Pune, and Srinagar – had been opened for UDAN flights.

"We have been repeatedly asking AAI to develop their own facilities for commercial operations. IAF bases cannot accommodate large numbers of civilian flights as they are not meant for it. Initially, limited parking was provided on the condition that AAI would develop its own, but that hasn't happened. With rising traffic, the shortage of bays is causing delays and turnaround issues," the official said.

At Hindon airport, for instance, the terminal has a daily capacity of 300 passengers, but handles over 400 passengers each day. The airport operator has two parking bays for ATR aircraft and two for narrow body jets, but the AAI is requesting access to two more parking bays, though it has not developed any parking bays since its civilian operations began in 2019.

Rising demand

While flights were originally meant to operate only from dawn to dusk, operators are now seeking extended hours including during the weekend, further straining facilities and requiring additional manpower to operate the facilities, the official added.

Migration is essential to globalisation: Amartya Sen

Shrabana Chatterjee
KOLKATA

Migration is essential to globalisation and it has been a major source of advancement across times, Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen said during an interaction with students in Kolkata on Friday.

Professor Sen emphasised that diversity formed the bedrock of Indian society and promoted the growth of the country and its people in its true form.

"Migration has been one of the major sources of global progress and advancement across generations and times, it is important to recognise that. There is enormous benefit in interacting with each other," the senior economist said while addressing a question on forced and voluntary migration among people.

Amartya Sen

Professor Sen highlighted that "almost nothing would happen" without migration of people across places, be it within or outside the country since ancient times. He cited an example that Brahmagupta's book on mathematics was translated six times into Arabic because language, progress, culture among other things were collaborative endeavours, including food, music, and more.

This talk on the benefits of migration comes at a time when migrants from West Bengal have faced multiple attacks in other States in the past few months.

Problem with SIR

Professor Sen said the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls might create multiple problems while trying to solve one. "Many people in India do not have any documents. This may lead to many of them losing their voting rights," he said.

He asserted that human rights for all should be the motto behind policies and laws so that discrimination based on caste, class, language, religion, and gender does not happen in a diverse country like India. He said diversity was the biggest factor behind the thriving culture of the nation.

Left behind, eight-year-old Odisha girl spends night stuck in school window

Satyasundar Barik
BHUBANESWAR

An eight-year-old girl from a tribal community hung from the window of her classroom all night in a desperate attempt to escape after the school authorities left her behind and inadvertently locked the premises in Odisha's Keonjhar district.

The incident happened at the Government Upper Primary School in Anjar, about five kilometres from Keonjhar district headquarters. On Thursday, when school hours ended, teachers locked the classrooms in a hurry and left the premises, unaware that Jyotsna Dehury, a Class 2 student, was still inside and fast asleep.

When Jyotsna woke up, she found herself alone in the deserted school. Frightened, she panicked and tried to escape. She attempted to squeeze through the iron grille of the classroom window. While her body slipped out, her head got stuck between the bars. Trapped in that position, she remained stuck the entire night, helpless in the pounding rain and the lurking fear of wild animals.

Frightening night: The villagers rescued the eight-year-old girl from the school on Friday morning. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Worried, Jyotsna's parents, both daily wage workers, searched for her the entire night, but in vain. When the school reopened on Friday morning, they were horrified to find the little girl stuck in the window grille. Villagers who rushed to Jyotsna's rescue bent the iron bars and freed her. She was taken to the Keonjhar District Headquarters Hospital, where doctors examined her before she was handed over to her parents.

"It was sheer neglect on the part of the teachers and staff. They should have ensured no child was left behind. One can only imagine how my little daughter spent the night," said Jhunu Dehury, Jyotsna's mother.

"The girl had fallen asleep inside the classroom, which was locked without proper checking. The incident is unfortunate," said Sanjita Dash, a teacher from the school, admitting the lapse. The episode sparked outrage in the community. The school's headmaster was suspended for negligence.

BSF team to be in Dhaka next week for talks with BGB

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A Border Security Force (BSF) delegation will be in Bangladesh next week for the biannual Director General-level talks with the Border Guards Bangladesh. The BSF will raise the attacks on its personnel by armed miscreants along the eastern border during the talks that are scheduled to be held from August 25 to 28.

The issue was raised during the last BSF-BGB Border Co-ordination Conference held in Delhi in February. However, a BSF official said the attacks had not stopped.

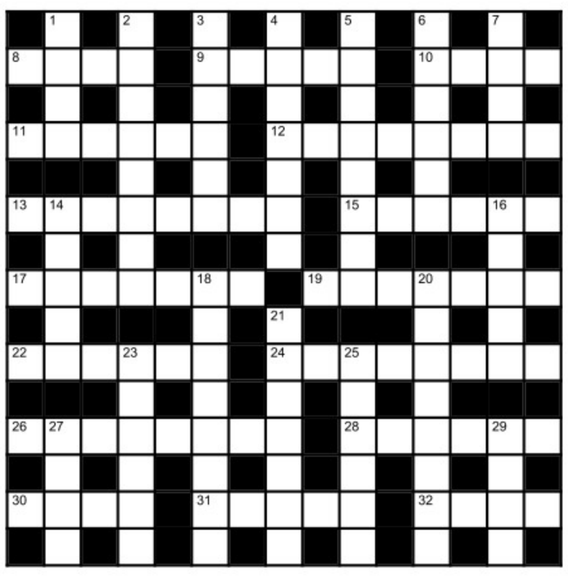
In 2023 and 2024, the number of personnel injured during attacks by miscreants stood at 74 and 72, respectively.

TH CROSSWORD + 14571

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Insect gets right drink (4)
9 Cruise along shoreline (5)
10 Consumer appears in trousers (4)
11 Person displaying rain (6)
12 Boy correct about seaside resort (8)
13 Design changed to absorb pressure and energy for moving at high velocity (8)
15 Fast dances from girls having operation (6)
17/22 Laos cat's holiday spot (7,6)
19 Art seen in part of bridge in old city (7)
22 See 17 Across
24 Doctor wrongly singes bandage (8)
26 Resident of box turning tops getting large sums of prize money (8)
28 Lives in tents around university and university grounds (6)
30 Island mentioned in Minsk yearbook (4)
31 Retains silly pekes (5)
32 Girl leaves game for precious stone (4)

Down

1 In short, queen's wager with husband (4)
2 Fighters rolling barrels around front of wineshop (8)
3 Tax coir to be twisted (6)
4 Bachelor in vehicle storage area produces junk (7)
5 Hang saint and make telephone call (6,2)
6 Four pecks from former American president chased by the Spanish (6)
7 After losing wife, owner is confused in city (4)
14 Call head of police honey endlessly (5)
16 Some non-vegetarian food wrap is recycled, no? (5)
18 Statues, for example, and two arks renovated around end of October (8)
20 Where one may come face to face with four stony presidents... (8)
21 Yes, rejected after soy containing a bit of dirt spoiled long journey (7)
23 York development covers north eastern archipelago (6)
25 Old tax surplus (6)
27 Boats in Newark sailing-club (4)
29 Protuberance in gum-bottle (4)

SUDOKU

		8		5				
	9		7					6
5				6	8	9		2
	8	5	3					
					1	4	6	
1		4	2	8				9
9					4		7	
				9		1		

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle

		N	O	W	H	E	R	E	T	O	G	O		
U		A		R		D		R		N		L		A
S	C	U	B	A		G	R	U	E	L	L	I	N	G
A		R		P		E		P		Y		V		E
B	L	U	E	P	R	I	N	T	S		N	E	O	N
L				E		N		E				D		T
E	L	A	N	D				A	D	J	O	U	R	N	S
		L		U						B		A		
E	S	C	A	P	I	S	T			E	M	B	E	R
N		O				C		A		I				A
C	O	H	O		C	O	M	M	I	S	S	I	O	N
O		O		O		U		I		A		N		G
D	E	L	I	V	E	R	E	D			N	U	D	G	E
E		I		E		G		S		C		U		R
		C	U	R	R	E	N	T	N	E	W	S		

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	2	5	6	9	8	7	1	3
1	8	9	7	4	3	2	6	5
7	3	6	1	2	5	8	4	9
3	7	8	4	6	2	9	5	1
9	1	4	5	8	7	6	3	2
6	5	2	3	1	9	4	7	8
2	6	1	8	3	4	5	9	7
5	9	3	2	7	6	1	8	4
8	4	7	9	5	1	3	2	6

FAITH

Conquering time

The adage says, "Time and tide wait for no man". The changes due to time are natural. For example, a boy becoming old, milk turning into curd, and so on. In this world, time-change brings about both benefits and losses. Time is a resource. Children are to be educated about the importance of time. A farmer plans agriculture according to the time. People should study well during school days. Men should work as long as they can and earn money throughout their lives. Time lost cannot be recouped.

The six seasons denote the change of time. Thiruvalluvar advises that those who wish to conquer the world should wait patiently for the opportune moment. "*Kaalam karudhi iruppavar*"– Kural 485. Effective time management is essential for proper planning. People who perform work on time reap more benefits. It is said such people control time, not the other way around.

Thanneerpalli Krishnan Swamy said in a discourse that some of our deeds yield sins, and the period during which people suffer as an outcome of those sins can be called "bad time". It is but natural for people to find fault with the time. Time may bring joy also due to our good deeds.

How and when can a person conquer time? Lord Krishna says in the Bhagavad Gita that actions are being performed in every way by the gunas of prakruthi (*Prakruthey: kriyamanani* Chapter 3, Verse 27). If people develop more of the sattva gunas, they will have good thoughts and will undertake more virtuous deeds. Through this, they will be liberated from their sins. Once liberated, they will be out of the mortal coil of the physical body and will be out of the ambit of the influence of time.

INBRIEF

RBI's Indranil Bhattacharyya nominated as MPC member

The Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank of India, at its meeting held in Lucknow, under the chairmanship of Governor Sanjay Malhotra, approved the nomination of Executive Director Indranil Bhattacharyya as an ex-officio member of the monetary policy committee (MPC). The board assessed the emerging global and domestic economic landscape, including the geopolitical and financial market developments and associated challenges, the RBI said.

Apollo Hospitals promoter group sells stake for ₹1,490 cr.

Promoter group of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise (AHEL) represented by MD Suneeta Reddy on Friday sold 1,897,239 equity shares, amounting to 1.3% stake, in a transaction worth more than ₹1,489 crore. The stake sale was via block deal on the stock exchanges at a price of ₹7,850 per share, which was a discount of 1% to the closing price on Thursday, the company said on Friday. The sale proceeds will be utilised to pare down outstanding debt of the promoter group.

Reliance Infra to monetise Pune Satara Toll Road project

Reliance Infrastructure Ltd. said it had decided to monetise the Pune Satara Toll Road (PSTR) project to focus on core area of operation. Cube Highways and Infrastructure III Pte Ltd. (Cube Highways), a Singapore based company, has agreed to acquire 100% stake in PS Toll Road Pvt. Ltd., the special purpose vehicle (SPV) that operates the project. The enterprise value for the PS Toll Road transaction is estimated at ₹2,000 crore, a company official said.

OpenAI set to open office in New Delhi

The firm has already started hiring in India, its second largest market after the U.S., and established Indian entity 'OpenAI India Private Limited'

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Setting foot: The move marks the firm's first major entry following visits by CEO Sam Altman. REUTERS

ChatGPT maker OpenAI will open its first office in India in New Delhi, the company announced on Friday.

"Opening an office in India reflects OpenAI's support for the government's IndiaAI mission and commitment to partnering with the government to build AI for India, with India," the firm said.

An Indian entity, OpenAI India Private Limited, appeared on the Registrar of Companies' index.

"It will also allow OpenAI to better serve its users in India, including the millions of students, educators, professionals, and developers who use OpenAI's tools to learn, be more creative, and solve problems for themselves and others," it added.

The move marks the firm's first major entry – following visits by CEO Sam Altman as part of a series of blitz Asia tours – into what is shaping up to be among its largest markets by population. "India is ChatGPT's second-largest market by users, after the U.S., and one of its fastest-growing," OpenAI said.

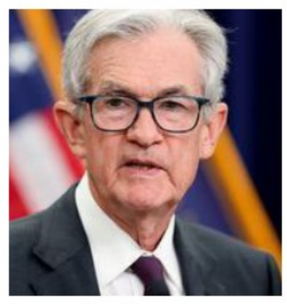
In just the last year, usage from India has grown fourfold, the company said, adding that it is also in the top five markets by developers using the platform.

"While details on the office's exact location in New Delhi are yet to be confirmed, OpenAI has officially established an entity in India and has begun hiring a dedicated local team," the company said.

The firm had three job openings – all in sales – on its website at the time of the announcement.

Powell, citing jobs risk, opens door to cuts, but non-committal

Reuters
JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING



Jerome Powell

U.S. Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Friday pointed to a possible rate cut at the central bank's September meeting but stopped short of committing to cutting interest rates in remarks that walked a narrow line acknowledging growing risks to the job market while also saying risks of higher inflation remain.

"While the labour market appears to be in balance, it is a curious kind of balance that results from a marked slowing in both the supply of and demand for workers. This unusual situation suggests that downside risks to employment are rising. And if those risks materialise, they can do so quickly," Mr. Powell told an audience of international economists and policymakers at the Fed's annual conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. "It is also possible, however, that the upward pressure on prices from tariffs could spur a more lasting inflation dynamic, and that is a risk to be assessed and managed."

"The stability of the unemployment rate and other labor market measures allows us to proceed carefully as we consider changes to our policy stance. Nonetheless, with policy in restrictive territory, the baseline outlook and the shifting balance of risks may warrant adjusting our policy stance," Mr. Powell said, noting that while tariffs are expected to drive prices higher the baseline case is for that impact on inflation to fade.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,307	-0.85
US Dollar	87.52	-0.30
Gold	1,00,370	-0.24
Brent oil	67.66	0.41

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2324.90	-52.30
Adani Ports	1341.20	-20.60
Apollo Hosp	7922.50	-4.00
Asian Paints	2504.50	-62.10
Axis Bank	1070.90	-8.00
Bajaj Auto	8679.50	-5.00
Bajaj Finserv	1965.90	-14.10
Bajaj Finance	894.50	-1.10
Bharat Elec	374.85	0.65
Bharti Airtel	1933.30	3.40
Cipla	1592.80	0.00
Coal India	374.45	-3.70
Dr Reddys Lab	1277.60	1.00
Eicher Motors	5924.50	-50.50
Eternal Ltd.	319.10	-2.70
Grasim Ind	2813.80	-67.40
HCL Tech	1466.30	-27.20
HDFC Bank	1964.60	-26.60
HDFC Life	788.75	-6.70
Hero MotoCorp	4997.90	-99.20
Hindalco	704.20	-3.10
Hind Unilever	2629.90	-18.10
ICICI Bank	1436.40	-9.60
IndusInd Bank	760.10	-7.35
Infosys	1487.50	-8.90
ITC	398.30	-7.25
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	320.60	-3.25
JSW Steel	1054.60	-17.20
Kotak Bank	1986.60	-31.20
L&T	3595.80	-16.80
M&M	3403.00	27.90
Maruti Suzuki	14349.00	69.00
NestleIndia	1162.90	-16.50
NTPC	337.00	-1.80
ONGC	236.29	-2.00
PowerGrid Corp	283.35	-0.65
Reliance Ind	1409.20	-15.60
SBI Life	1859.00	-18.30
State Bank	816.25	-9.45
Shriram Finance Ltd.	615.85	-3.95
Sun Pharma	1641.80	1.60
TataConsumerProduct	1084.10	-4.00
Tata Motors	680.30	-5.10
Tata Steel	158.55	-2.96
TCS	3054.00	-48.60
Tech Mahindra	1505.00	-16.30
Titan	3621.00	4.70
Trent Ltd.	5418.00	-34.50
UltraTech Cement	12589.00	-281.00
Wipro	248.64	-1.27

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on August 22

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	87.33	87.65
Euro	101.31	101.69
British Pound	117.15	117.59
Japanese Yen (100)	58.74	58.96
Chinese Yuan	12.16	12.21
Swiss Franc	107.97	108.38
Singapore Dollar	67.75	68.00
Canadian Dollar	62.76	63.00
Malaysian Ringitt	20.65	20.75
Australian Dollar	56.05	56.26

Source:Indian Bank

Real money gaming firms wind down operations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Major real money gaming platforms have stopped offering cash games in compliance with The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, which received Presidential assent and was enacted into a law on Friday.

However, there is one more step left – a notification by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology – before the prohibition of real money games (RMGs) can come into effect in India.

Even as the enactment was completed in a space of three days – from Cabinet approval to clearing both Houses of Parliament – RMG firms said they would wind down.

The reactions reflect, at least for the moment, a collectively non-confrontational stance towards the ban. "In compliance with the new law, we are responsibly withdrawing impacted offerings w.e.f. 22nd August 2025," WinZO, which claims it has over 25 crore users, said in a statement.

IT Ministry officials told reporters that notwithstanding a brief period where users would be able to withdraw money they have deposited, the Act would be notified as soon as possible.

"As per The Promotion and Regulation of Online Gaming Bill, 2025, cash games and contests have been discontinued," Dream11 said in a statement on its website. PokerBaazi said it had paused real money gaming in compliance with the Act.

RummyCircle also said it had "discontinued" all cash games.

Kerala CM to lay foundation for Adani Logistics Park

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will lay the foundation stone for Adani Logistics Park at Kalamassery on August 23.

The Adani Group would invest about ₹600 crore in the first phase for the development of the park on a 70-acre site.

Industries Minister P. Rajeeve said the project would generate several jobs. The facility would include integrated logistics services. The park's design incorporates modern technology and systems for sustainable development.

"It aims at boosting exports in e-com, FMCG, pharmaceuticals, automobile and retail sectors."

'GST Council to meet Sept. 3 on GST cuts'

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

There may be considerable debate on rate-cut proposals.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council will hold its 56th meeting on September 3-4 in New Delhi, the Council said in a memorandum issued on Friday.

During the meeting, the Council is expected to discuss the recommendations of various Groups of Ministers, including on reforming the GST system into a two-rate structure in line with the Union government's recommendations.

On August 15, Ministry of Finance said it sent proposals to the GoM on Rate Rationalisation. GoM Chairperson and Bihar Deputy CM Samrat Chaudhary said the group deliberated on and forwarded the Centre's proposals to the GST Council.

The Council is likely to extensively debate on the proposals. On Thursday, Kerala FM K.N. Balagopal, a member of the GoM, told *The Hindu* the States were concerned about the revenue implications of the proposals. The meeting will take place over eight months after the last one in December 2024. According to rules, it must meet at least once a quarter.

Life insurers awaiting more clarity on GST 'cuts': official

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The life insurance industry is awaiting more clarity around the proposed GST rate cuts on individual policies, according to Venkatachalam Iyer, co-chairperson, Insurance Awareness Committee (IAC-Life), under the aegis of Life Insurance Council.

Addressing media here, he said India ranked 10th globally in the life insurance market with a penetration rate of 3.2% and the committee's efforts under the Sabse Pehle Life Insurance 2.0 campaign aim at ensuring life insurance became not just a known option but also a trusted financial essential across every Indian household.

'Scooters growing faster than others'

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Sudarshan Venu

The share of scooters, both in ICE and EV segments, will continue to grow, said Sudarshan Venu, MD, TVS Motor Company.

"Scooter category has grown faster than other categories in the last few years. We are continuously launching and keeping products fresh," he said at the 33rd annual general meeting (AGM) .

"TVS IQ has already surpassed six lakh units in sales, continuing its market leadership in India's EV segment," Mr. Venu said.

The Norton Motorcycles would be introduced by the end of this year or early next year. "With this revenue and the financial performance will definitely improve," Mr. Venu said.

Effective August 25, Mr. Venu will be CMD.

Former chairman Ralph Speth would be the chief mentor for three years effective August 23.

Exercise caution while investing in micro-cap firms, SEBI tells AMCs

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Asset management companies (AMCs) should exercise caution while investing in micro-cap companies, SEBI Chairperson Tuhin Kanta Pandey said here on Friday.

"While there is a need to diversify beyond blue chips, caution must be exercised while investing in micro-cap or debt papers in bespoke deals. Proper documentation for such investment decisions ensures transparency and sound due diligence," he said at the 30th anniversary of the Association of Mutual Funds in India.

His comment assumes significance as former chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch had flagged froth in micro-cap firms which are listed companies with a market capitalisation of ₹500 crore to ₹1,000 crore.

He also said Choti SIP, in which investors can contribute a minimum of ₹250, had good potential but needed more push. Mr. Pandey flagged factors that could undermine investor confidence such as fraudulent redemptions and urged AMCs to act promptly on such complaints.

Office of the Superintending Engineer Water Resources Circle Nohar (Hanumangarh)

Notice Inviting Bid
(NIB Code-WRN2526A0072)

Bids for 02 Nos of Work estimated cost from Rs. 1258.14 Lac and 1302.14 lac involving (1) Rehabilitation of Rajpura Minor 0.0 to 16.657 km, Gunajsari sub minor-1st 0.0 to 2.84 km, Bibipur sub minor km 0.0 to 1.100 and 4.900 to 6.600 km, Amarpura Minor km 0.0 to 1.022 and 1.055 to 3.951 km and Chanan Minor in reach 0.0 to 0.850 km and 3.752 to 6.8 km CM Budget announcement 2025-26 and (2) Rehabilitation of Chhani Disty 0 to 3.47 km, sardarpura disty 0 to 9.875 km, munsari disty 0 to 6 km and baruwali mr 0 to 7.163 km. CM Budget announcement 2025-26 are invited from prospective bidders up to 03.09.2025 at 6.00 PM. Other particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, of the state and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.

UBN No.- WRN2526WLOB00228
WRN2526WLOB00229

(Sanjeev Verma)
Superintending Engineer
Water Resources Circle
Nohar

DIPR/C/11780/2025

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FEDERATION OF CCS NIAM
(Section 8 Company under CCS NIAM)
Kota Road, Bambala, Near Sanganer, Jaipur 302033 Rajasthan,
Website: www.niam-nabi.com Telephone:-0141-2795200

Recruitment applications are invited (On contractual Basis)

Applications are invited for the **One (01) post of Manager-Finance & ICT (On contract basis) under RKVY-RAFTAAR project at IEF** of CCS National Institute of Agricultural Marketing on **consolidated remuneration 1.5 Lakh Per month.**

Last date for receipt of applications is 5th September 2025 through e.mail: iefed@ccsniam.ac.in only

Any alteration would not be published in newspaper.

For details of qualification, experience and eligibility, please visit **www.niam-nabi.com**

Chairman, Board of Directors

Uttar Pradesh New & Renewable Energy Development Agency,(UPNEDA)
(Deptt. of Additional Sources of Energy, Govt. of U.P.)
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010, Uttar Pradesh
Fax: 0522-2720779, 2720829 Mobile No: 9415609006
Website: www.upneda.org.in E-Mail: ho_ajay@rediffmail.com

UPNEDA

Pre-Bid Notification
Tender No: UPNEDA/NIT/RESCO-500 MW -GCRT-Govt. Building/2025-26

Uttar Pradesh New & Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA) invites Online Bids from Prospective Bidders through ISN-ETS portal for **Selection of Solar Power Developers for Setting up of 500 MW of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar PV Project on Government/ Semi-Government Buildings in Uttar Pradesh under RESCO Model on Net-metering Basis through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding.**

It is hereby informed that Pre-bid meeting will be held on 25.08.2025 at 12.30 pm Physically/ virtually. All interested Bidders are requested to join Physically or through Virtually.

Virtual Link shall be provided on the UPNEDA website.

Director, UPNEDA

हमारा प्रण ऊर्जा संरक्षण

दिल्ली प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय
DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
(Est. By Govt. of Delhi vide Act 6 of 2009)
(Formerly Delhi College of Engineering)
Shahbad Daulatpur, Bawana Road-Delhi-110042

Notification for Special Spot Round B.Tech. Admissions for Academic Session 2025-26

The Delhi Technological University (DTU) shall conduct a Special Spot Round for admission in B. Tech. Program for vacant seats on **Wednesday, 27.08.2025.**

Candidates who qualified JEE Main–2025 (Paper-1) and had registered for "JAC Delhi Admission and eCounselling Services for Session 2025" can participate in the Special Spot Round.

Venue: B.R. Ambedkar Auditorium, DTU, Bawana Road, Delhi

Candidates are required to bring a Demand Draft (DD) of Rs. 2,47,700/- (Rupees Two Lacs Forty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred only) in favour of **"Registrar DTU"** payable at Delhi.Detailed information regarding Eligibility Criteria, Admission Procedure, Schedule, Fees, Vacant seats etc., will be made available on JAC Delhi website: **https://jacdelhi.admissions.nic.in** and DTU website **www.dtu.ac.in**

For any query contact on:
Email: jacdelhi2025@dtu.ac.in., Phone No.9289997200, 9289997201, 9289997202

Chairperson, JAC Delhi 2025

Kerala Maritime Board
(A Statutory Board of Govt. of Kerala)
HO TC XXII/1666 (4&5)
1st Floor, Mulamoottil Building, Pipinmoodu,
Sasthamangalam, PIN: 695010

Tender Notice

RFP for Development of Wayside Amenities Centre at Kozhikode, Kerala

The Kerala Maritime Board (KMB) invites a tender for the **Development of Wayside Amenities Centre at Kozhikode, Kerala** [Tender ID: **2025_KMB_788210_1**] in Public Private Partnership (**PPP**) mode. The detailed tender document can be downloaded from Government of Kerala's e-procurement portal (**www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**).

Proposals must be submitted on or before **06-10-2025, 06.55 PM**. For further information contact us on **0471-2910040/ 9544410029** or email us to **kmb.kerala@gmail.com**.

For updates visit: **www.kmb.kerala.gov.in**

Sd/
Chief Executive Officer
Kerala Maritime Board

D3/629/2025/I&PRD

LAKSHADWEEP ADMINISTRATION
(DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES)
KAVARATTI - 682 555, Email ID: lk-dof@nic.in

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)

The Directorate of Fisheries, U.T. of Lakshadweep, invites Expression of Interest (EoI) from reputed and experienced firms for the **Installation of Tuna Canning Machinery and Completion of Partially Constructed Civil Structures** at the Tuna Canning Factory, Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep. Interested firms may submit their willingness to participate the EoI. Last date of submission of Expression of Interest (EoI) is on or before 27.08.2025. The Expression of Interest (EoI) is published in the website **www.lakshadweep.gov.in**.

Sd/- DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES

MUSI RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
O/o THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, MRDCL, HYDERABAD
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
Tender Notice No. 03/SE-II/MRDCL/2025-26 **Date: 21-08-2025**

Item No.	Name of Work	IBM value
1	Construction of an Iconic Bridge across Mir Alam Tank connecting Bengaluru National Highway at Shastripuram to Chintalmet under Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC) mode / Turnkey Basis	Rs. 30436.28 Lakhs

Sl. No.	Events		Date and Time
1	Downloading Start date	:	25-08-2025 from 04.00 P.M.
2	Pre-Bid Meeting	:	30-08-2025 at 03.00 P.M. **Location:** O/o. Chief Engineer, MRDCL, 1st Floor, ENC (PH) Office, Kashana, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad.
3	Last Date & Time for Receipts of Bids	:	08-09-2025 upto 03.00 P.M.
4	Opening of Technical bid	:	08-09-2025 after 04.00 P.M.
5	Opening of Price bid	:	Date will be intimated by MRDCL

Note: **The Bidders are advised to visit www.tender.telangana.gov.in to download Bid Document and EPC project Tender Drawings. Any Queries can be addressed to musirdc@gmail.com.**

Address of the officer concerned: Sri . K. Vidya Sagar, SE, MRDCL.
O/o The Superintending Engineer-II, Musi Riverfront Development Corporation Limited,
1st Floor, ENC (PH) Office, Kashana, A.C. Guards, Hyderabad-500004.
Further details can be seen at 'e-Procurement' **https://tender.telangana.gov.in.** For any queries pl. contact Mr. Jakeer Hussain, DEE, MRDCL, Ph: 9701362815

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, MRDCL, Hyderabad.

DIPR R.O.No.6923-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 22.08.2025

TAIPEI

Taiwan to hike defence spending to 5% of GDP 'in line with NATO'

AP

Taiwan's government aims at increasing defence spending to 5% of GDP by 2030, President Lai Ching-te said on Friday, as the United States pushes Taipei to invest more in its own security. Spending was expected to "reach 5% of GDP by 2030, in line with NATO standards," Mr. Lai said, according to a presidential statement. AFP

SULAIMANIYAH

Iraqi Kurdistan Opposition figure held after deadly clashes: officials

AFP

Three members of the security forces in the autonomous Iraqi Kurdistan region were killed and 19 wounded during the arrest of an Opposition figure on Friday, two security officials said. Lahur Sheikh Jangi from the influential Talabani family "surrendered" after hours of armed clashes, while his brother Bolad was arrested. AFP

PARIS

Macron, Merz and Tusk to visit Moldova to back its 'sovereignty'

REUTERS

French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk will visit Moldova on its 34th Independence day (August 27) to "reaffirm their full support" for its "security, sovereignty, and European path," Paris said on Friday. The visit is at the invitation of President Maia Sandu. AFP

MOSCOW

Russia rejects Zelenskyy meeting as diplomatic tension simmers

AFP

Russia on Friday ruled out an immediate meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, as diplomatic tension rose. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said "no meeting" between Vladimir Putin and Mr. Zelenskyy was planned, as NATO chief Mark Rutte visited Kyiv, largely to discuss security guarantees for Ukraine. AFP

UN declares famine in Gaza, blames Israel for 'systematic aid obstruction'

Famine is affecting 500,000 people in the Gaza governorate, which covers about a fifth of the Palestinian territory, says Rome-based Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Initiative; Israel's Defence Minister threatens to destroy Gaza City

Agence France-Presse
JERUSALEM

The UN officially declared a famine in Gaza on Friday, blaming "systematic obstruction of aid" by Israel, hours after Defence Minister Israel Katz threatened to destroy the territory's largest city.

Israel rejected the UN-backed report as "based on Hamas lies laundered through organisations with vested interests".

Hamas urged the UN and UN Security Council to "stop the war and lift the siege", calling for unrestricted access for food, medicine, water and fuel.

The Rome-based Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Initiative (IPC) said famine was affecting 500,000 people in the Gaza governorate, which covers about a fifth of the Palestinian territory including Gaza City.

Unending wait: A child surrounded by pots, waiting to get food from a charity kitchen in Khan Younis, Gaza, on Thursday. REUTERS

Israel has pressed ahead with plans to seize Gaza City despite an international outcry, saying it is key to defeating Hamas.

The IPC projected that the famine would expand to Deir el-Balah and Khan Yunis governorates by the end of September, covering around two-thirds of Gaza.

With the vast majority of the territory's population displaced at least once, the UN said nearly a million people currently live in Gaza governorate.

UN agencies and aid groups had warned for months of a looming famine in Gaza, where Israel has severely restricted aid and at times completely cut it off during its nearly two-year war with militant group Hamas.

UN aid chief Tom Fletcher said the famine was entirely preventable, saying food could not get through to the Palestinian territory "because of systematic obstruction by Israel".

War crime

UN human rights chief Volker Turk said it was "a war crime to use starvation as a method of warfare" and said it "may also amount to the war crime of wilful killing".

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for a ceasefire, saying: "We cannot allow this situation to continue with impunity." "After 22 months of relentless conflict, over half a million people in the Gaza Strip are facing catastrophic conditions characterised by starvation, destitution and death," the IPC report said.

In early March, Israel completely banned aid from Gaza for two months, leading to severe shortages of food, medicines and fuel.

Speaking earlier on Friday, Mr. Katz warned: "The gates of hell will open upon the heads of Hamas's murderers and rapists in Gaza – until they agree to Israel's conditions for ending the war, primarily the release of all hostages and their disarmament."

"If they do not agree, Gaza, the capital of Hamas, will become Rafah and Beit Hanoun," he added, referring to two cities in Gaza largely razed during previous Israeli operations.

Wang meets Pak. Army chief Munir, discusses regional security, counter-terrorism

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Friday met Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir and discussed regional security, counter-terrorism and matters of mutual interest.

Mr. Wang, who arrived in Pakistan on Wednesday to attend the 6th round of the Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Islamabad, also met Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Asif Ali Zardari and reaffirmed China's commitment to working with Pakistan to promote regional peace, development, and stability.

China expressed "steadfast support" for the sovereignty and development of Pakistan as the two sides agreed to strengthen their "all-weather strategic partnership", the army said in a statement on Friday.

It said discussions between Army chief Munir and Mr. Wang focused on regional security, counter-terrorism and matters of mutual interest.

Wang Yi

'Steadfast support'

"Both sides reaffirmed their resolve to strengthen the all-weather strategic partnership and enhance coordination at regional and international forums," it said. "Wang Yi reiterated China's steadfast support for Pakistan's sovereignty and development."

Gen. Munir expressed gratitude for China's consistent support.

Their meeting concluded with a shared commitment to advance peace, stability, and prosperity in the region, the army said.

Last month, Gen. Munir visited China, where he met Vice President Han Zeng, Mr. Wang and top military brass, but not President Xi Jinping.

On Thursday, Mr. Wang and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar held strategic consultations to review the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation, including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor 2.0, trade and economic relations, multilateral cooperation, and people-to-people ties. Mr. Wang arrived in Islamabad from Kabul, where he held a meeting with his counterparts from Afghanistan and Pakistan. The three sides agreed to expand cooperation in multiple fields, including the extension of the CPEC to Kabul.

FBI searches home of former U.S. National Security Adviser Bolton

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

The FBI is searching the Maryland home of former U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton as part of an investigation into the handling of classified documents, a person familiar with the matter said on the condition of anonymity on Friday.

John Bolton

Mr. Bolton served as Mr. Trump's third national security adviser for 17 months and clashed with him over Iran, Afghanistan and North Korea.

The first Trump administration had unsuccessfully sought to block the publication of a Bolton book that it said contained classified information. Mr. Bolton was among a trio of former Trump officials whose security details were cancelled earlier this year.

China calls for regional cooperation ahead of SCO meet

Vighnesh P. Venkitesh
BEIJING

It is important to have regional solidarity amid turbulence in international landscape, China said on Friday as it prepared to host heads of states and international organisations for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin on August 31 and September 1.

Chinese President Xi Jinping will chair the summit, which is expected to be attended by a host of world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Russian President Vladimir Putin, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Briefing reporters about the summit, China's Assistant Foreign Minister Liu Bin said it will follow new visions to overcome "cultural wars and cold war mentality", while looking into new measures to advance development, maintain security, and promote prosperity.

The summit will follow a new visions to overcome 'cultural wars cold war mentality', says China

The meeting, hosting more than 20 world leaders, comes against the backdrop of uncertainties in global trade, triggered by the tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump.

"In today's world, outdated mindsets of hegemonism and power politics still have influence, with certain countries attempting to prioritise their own interests above others, seriously threatening world peace and stability," Mr. Liu said without naming any specific country while emphasising on the need to strengthen regional cooperation.

The SCO aims at stability to foster lasting peace, harmony, and friendship while addressing uncertainties in international environment, Mr. Liu said, adding that the summit will focus on practising multilateralism and safeguarding regional stability.

(The writer is in Beijing at an invitation from the China Public Diplomacy Association)

Sport

India's left-arm spinner Sultana bids adieu

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's left-arm spinner Gouher Sultana retired from all forms of cricket, saying it has been "greatest honour" to represent the country at the highest level of the game.

The 37-year-old Sultana played 50 One-Day Internationals and 37 T20Is for India after making her debut in 2008. She last represented the country in April 2014.

Sultana picked up 66 wickets in ODIs at an average of 19.39, and 29 scalps in T20Is at an average of 26.27.

She played in two ODI World Cups, in 2009 and 2013, and picked up 12 wickets in 11 matches.

Sultana also featured in three T20 World Cups from 2009 to 2014, and claimed seven wickets.

Gouher Sultana. FILE PHOTO

She made a comeback in the 2024 and 2025 Women's Premier League seasons, representing UP Warriorz.

Sultana is currently a BCCI Level 2 coach.

Raghvi, Joshitha lead India-A to a fighting score before the bowlers put the team on top

CRICKET

Press Trust of India
BRISBANE

Middle-order batter Raghvi Bist hit a fighting 93 while tailender V.J. Joshitha (51) produced a fine half-century to script India-A's comeback in the one-off women's 'Test' as the visitors posted a competitive 299 before reducing Australia-A to 158 for five on the second day here on Friday.

India-A was reduced to 93 for five on a rain-truncated first day. Raghvi, 26 overnight, shared a 64-run stand with Radha Yadav (33) for the sixth wicket and a 75-run partnership with Minnu Mani (28).

Raghvi, who batted admirably with the tail, hit 16 boundaries in her 153-ball knock before being dismissed seven runs short of a century. She was cleaned up by medium-pacer Maitlan Brown in the 63rd over of India's innings.

But Joshitha and Titas Sadhu (23) shared a valuable 75-run stand for the ninth wicket to take India-A close to the 300-run mark.

In reply, Australia-A was struggling at 158 for five in 43 overs. Medium-pacer Saima Thakor (two for 21) and left-arm spinner Radha Yadav (two for 40) bowled well for India-A.

The scores: India Women-A 299 in 89.1 overs (Raghvi Bist 93, Joshitha 51, Georgia Prestwidge 3/37, Maitlan Brown 3/65) vs Australia Women-A 158/5 in 43 overs (Tahila Wilson 49, Nicole Faltum 30 batting).

Stroke-filled: Raghvi smashed 16 fours during her knock of 93.

Indian women win u-18 recurve bronze

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

Indian archers claimed the under-18 recurve women's team bronze while staying in medal contention in four other team events, including three finals, at the World youth championships in Winnipeg, Canada.

Important results: Team: Recurve: Under-18: Men: India (Agastay Singh, Soham Kanase, Aditya Pawar) got a bye (1st round), bt France 6-0 (2nd round), bt Japan 5-3 (3rd round), lost to Chinese Taipei 3-5 (semifinal), lost to Turkey 3-5 (bronze medal match).

Women: India (Gatha Khadake, Jiana Kumar, Sharvari Shende) got a bye (1st round), bt Mexico 6-0 (2nd round), bt Japan 5-3 (3rd round), lost to Korea 2-6 (semifinal), bt USA 6-0 (bronze medal match). **Mixed team:** India (Gatha, Agastay) got a bye (1st round), bt France 5-3 (2nd round), bt Georgia 5-1 (3rd round), lost to Korea 0-6 (semifinal), to meet Chinese Taipei in bronze medal match. **Compound: Men: U-21:** India (Mihir Apar, Kushal Dalal, Ganesh Mani Ratnam Thirumuru) got a bye (1st round), bt Israel 235-233 (2nd round), bt Korea 233-228 (semifinal), to meet Germany in the final. **U-18:** India (Mohit Dagar, Yogesh Joshi, Devansh Singh) got byes (1st round and semifinal), to meet USA in the final.

Women: India (Surya Hamsini Madala, Prithika Pradeep, Varenya) bt Italy 225-215 (1st round), lost to Chinese Taipei 224-227 (semifinal), lost to Mexico 210-221 (bronze medal match). **Mixed team:** India (Prithika, Dagar) got a bye (1st round), bt New Zealand 150-136 (2nd round), bt Spain 154-145 (semifinal), to meet USA in the final.

FIRM FAVOURITES

'Indian team can win Asia Cup under Surya's fearless captaincy'

EMMANUAL YOGINI

Former India opener Virender Sehwag has backed the Men in Blue under Suryakumar Yadav to win the Asia Cup. "This Indian team has the right mix of youth and experience, and under Surya's fearless leadership, they can dominate Asia once again. If the team plays with the same intent, I have no doubt India can lift the trophy."

SPOILT FOR CHOICE

Leaving out Shreyas from Asia Cup squad shows India's depth: Taylor

FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

Former New Zealand batter Ross Taylor said the depth in India's T20I squad allowed the national selectors to leave out a player of Shreyas Iyer's calibre from the Asia Cup. "When you can leave that type of quality out, you've got to be pretty comfortable with the depth of your squad," Taylor said in New Delhi on Friday.

HOT STREAK

Breetzke becomes the first to score fifties in first four ODI innings

AFP

South Africa batter Matthew Breetzke became the first player in men's ODI history to pass 50 in his first four matches. He scored 88 in the second match of the series against Australia in Mackay. After starting with 150 against New Zealand, he hit 83 against Pakistan and 57 against Australia in the first ODI of the current series.

STALEMATE AGAIN

Praggnanandhaa and Gukesh held to draws; Caruana in lead

FLICKR@STLCHESSCLUB

R. Praggnanandhaa was held by Samuel Sevian and D. Gukesh drew with Maxime Vachier-Lagrave in the fourth round of the Sinquefield Cup in St. Louis on Thursday. Fabiano Caruana led with three points and is followed by Praggnanandhaa and Levon Aronian on 2.5. Five players, including Gukesh, share fourth spot on two points apiece.

Ravina sets meet record; TN women, Odisha men relay teams rewrite marks

Tejas clinches the men's 110m hurdles gold; Karthik surprises Aboobacker and Praveen to win the triple jump event on a rain-affected day

ATHLETICS

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Leading the pack: Tejas and Abhishek reigned supreme in the men's 110m and 5000m on the third day of the inter-State championships. R. RAGU

Heavy rain disrupted proceedings on the third day of the National inter-State athletics championships at the Nehru Stadium here on Friday.

No athlete was able to make the cut for next month's World championships for the third successive day.

Haryana's Ravina broke the meet record in women's 20km race walk with a time of 1:35:13.49s, erasing the previous mark set by Bhawna Jat (1:37:03.00) in Bhubaneswar in 2023.

Tejas Shirse, the season's best runner in men's 110m hurdles, expectedly clinched the gold (13.60s).

He tripped on the first hurdle but didn't make any mistake thereafter to emerge a comfortable winner, pushing R. Manav and Muhammed Lazan to the second and third positions respectively.

However, it was a far cry from Tejas' personal best (13.41s, current National record) and the Worlds qualification mark (13.27s).

"Even if I had run like 13.5s, I would have perhaps qualified through World ranking points. I'm just unlucky, I guess. I can't blame the conditions as it was the same for everyone," he said.

The Tamil Nadu women's 4x100m quartet consisting of R. Pavithra, Abinaya Rajarajan, M. Angel Silvia and S. Dhanalakshmi set a new meet record of 44.73s bettering the mark set by the State team (45.40s) last year in Panchkula.

Odisha's men's 4x100m relay team comprising Sarun Payasingh, Lalu Prasad Bhoi, Animesh Kujur and Amiya Mallick also set a new meet record.

U. Karthik of Kerala won the men's triple jump gold, defeating favourites Abdulla Aboobacker (second, 16.37m) and Praveen Chithravel (third, 16.35m) for a season's best of 16.44m.

The results (winners only):
Men: 110m hurdles: Tejas Sirshe (Mah) 13.60s.
20km race walk: Bilin George Anto (Ker) 1:29:35.12.
5000m: Abhishek Pal (UP) 15:00.83; **triple jump:** U. Karthik (Ker) 16.44m.
Hammer throw: Damneet Singh (Pun) 69.25m; **4x100m relay:** Odisha (Sarun Payasingh, Lalu Prasad Bhoi, Animesh Kujur, Amiya Mallick) 39.52 (NMR) (OR: TN, Chennai, 39.88s, 2022).
Women: 100m hurdles: Moumita Mondal (WB) 13.22s.
20km race walk: Ravina (Har) 1:35:13.49 (NMR) (OR: Bhawna Jat, Bhubaneswar, 1:37:03.00, 2023).
4x100m relay: Tamil Nadu (R. Pavithra, Abinaya Rajarajan, M. Angel Silvia, S. Dhanalakshmi) 44.73s (NMR) (OR:TN, Panchkula, 45.40s, 2024).
Mixed 4x400m relay: TN (W. Nihal Joel, H. Rihan, Priya Mohan, Poovama Raju) 3:21.49s.

USA Cricket terminates its deal with ACE

Ayan Acharya

In 2019, USA Cricket granted ACE — co-founded by Sameer Mehta, Satyan Gajwani, Vijay Srinivasan, and Vineet Jain — exclusive 50-year rights to run elite T20 cricket

USA Cricket has terminated its long-term commercial agreement with American Cricket Enterprises (ACE), ending a partnership once billed as the cornerstone of the sport's growth in the United States.

"After years of engagement and repeated breach notices, USA Cricket has no choice but to terminate this agreement to protect the best interests of the sport and its stakeholders," said board chairman Venu Pisike.

He added that the deal had been struck "in good faith" to build infrastructure, create opportunities for athletes, and drive commercial growth.

The break comes after months of escalating friction.

Just last month, *Sportstar* reported that a contractual dispute with ACE threatened USA Cricket's Olympic certification, its standing with the International Cricket Council (ICC), and even its authority over the sport domestically.

On June 23, the board issued a formal breach notice, citing delayed payments, missed infrastructure targets, interference in governance, and overreach in international dealings. ACE rejected the allegations, accusing the board of misrepresenting the original terms.

In 2019, USA Cricket granted ACE – co-founded by Sameer Mehta, Satyan Gajwani, Vijay Srinivasan, and Vineet Jain – exclusive 50-year rights to run elite T20 cricket. ACE pledged to finance national teams, build six stadiums, and launch professional leagues.

Its flagship project, Major League Cricket, has since completed three seasons, drawing major IPL investment, with four of six franchises backed by Indian teams.

Despite the rupture, *Sportstar* understands USA Cricket is "open to immediate negotiation" on a fresh agreement with ACE.

Elavenil shoots her way to air rifle gold

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Elavenil.

Elavenil Valarivan battled the Chinese and Koreans efficiently to bag the women's air rifle gold with a 0.6 point margin over Peng Xinlu in the 16th Asian shooting championship in Shymkent on Friday. It was the second Asian championship individual gold for the 26-year-old , following the first in 2019.

The two-time Olympian and former world No.1, Elavenil had won two World Cup individual gold medals, apart from the World Cup Final gold, in a distinguished shooting career.

World Championship silver medallist, Mehuli Ghosh placed fourth. The Indian team won the bronze behind China and Korea. In mixed skeet, Ganemat Sekhon and Abhay Singh Sekhon won one of the two bronze medals by beating a strong Kuwait team 39-37.

Yashasvi Rathore and Harmehar Singh Lally won the junior mixed skeet gold by beating Kazakhstan 39-36, in a small field.

The results: 10m air rifle:
Women: 1. Elavenil Valarivan 253.6 (630.7); 2. Peng Xinlu (Chn) 253.0 (634.6); 3. Kwon Eunji (Kor) 231.2 (635.1); 4. Mehuli Ghosh 208.9 (630.3); 11. Ananya Naidu 630.0; RPO: Arya Borse 633.2; Sonam Maskar 630.5.
Team: 1. China 1902.0 (WR); 2. Korea 1897.5; 3. India 1891.0.
Juniors: 1. Kim Hyobeen (Kor) 251.1 (631.3); 2. Tang Huiqi (Chn) 251.0 (629.0); 3. Du Yuchen (Chn) 229.5 (633.9); 5. Shambhavi Kshirsagar 186.3 (633.7); 6. IshaTaksale 165.2 (630.4); 7. Hrudya Kondur 143.2 (632.1); 9. Ojasvi Thakur 628.3; 14. Parigha Bele 627.0; 28. Anvii Rathod 618.3. **Team:** 1. India 1896.2; 2. China 1884.9; 3. Korea 1879.0.
Youth: 1. Anannya 251.0 (626.1); 2. Abdollahisafayesh Nazaninzahra (Iri) 249.9 (624.2); 3. Bhumi 228.9 9628.7); 4. Ameerah Arshad 207.0 (624.8).
Team: 1. India 1879.6; 2. Korea 1868.9; 3. Mongolia 1865.2.
Skeet: Mixed team: 1. China (Jiang Yiting, Han Xu) 42 (141); 2. Kazakhstan (Anastassiya Molchanova, Eduard Yechshenko) 40 (141); 3. India (Ganemat Sekhon, Abhay Singh Sekhon) 39 (138); 4. Kuwait (Afrah Almohammad, Abdullah Alrashidi) 37 (136); 3. Qatar (Sarah Mohammed, Ali Ahmed Al-Ishaq) 38 (136); 4. Korea (Jang Kookhee, Lee Jongjun) 36 (139); 12. India-2 (Raiza Dhillon, Bhavtegh Singh Gill) 130.
Mixed team juniors: 1. India (Yashasvi Rathore, Harmehar Singh Lally) 39 (137); 2. Kazakhstan (Lidiya Basharova, Maxim Pochivalov) 36 (133); 3. Kazakhstan-2 (Angelina Sorokina, Artyom Sedelnikov) 40 (130); 4. India-2 (Agrima Kanwar, Ishaan Singh Libra) 36 (132).

Navi Mumbai replaces Bengaluru as a venue; Guwahati to stage the opening encounter

WOMEN'S ODI WC

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

Natural choice: The D.Y. Patil Stadium has been regularly hosting international fixtures and WPL matches. FILE PHOTO: YOGESH MHATRE

Navi Mumbai has replaced Bengaluru as a venue to host the ICC Women's ODI World Cup to be played in India and Sri Lanka from September 30.

The ICC announced on Friday that all the matches that were to be staged at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru, including provisionally the final, will now be held at the Dr. D.Y. Patil Stadium. The venue switch was necessitated due to the Chinnaswamy Stadium failing to get clearance from the local authorities in the aftermath of the stampede outside the stadium during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's IPL victory celebration on June 4.

"Navi Mumbai has emerged as a genuine home for women's cricket in recent years. The support it has received during international fixtures and the Women's Premier League has been remarkable. I am certain that the same energy will define the big matches of the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup as it returns to India after 12 years," ICC chairman Jay Shah said in a statement on Friday.

"While unforeseen circumstances required us to adjust the schedule and replace a venue, we are pleased to now have a lineup of five world-class venues (Navi Mumbai, Indore, Guwahati, Visakhapatnam and Colombo) that will showcase the very best of the women's game."

With the Karnataka State Cricket Association formally informing the BCCI – the tournament host – last week about its inability to stage the games, Thiruvananthapuram was considered as the alternative venue.

However, logistical challenges – with the Thiruvananthapuram International Airport not having direct flight connectivity to any of the other tournament venues – meant it dropped out of the race despite the Kerala Cricket Association's willingness to host the matches at a short notice. The private stadium on the outskirts of Mumbai then emerged as the natural choice. Considering that the monsoon recedes from the Mumbai Metropolitan Region early October, Navi Mumbai will host its first game on October 20.

With Bengaluru out of contention, the BCCI is understood to have pushed for Guwahati to stage the final. The negotiations resulted in Guwahati being awarded the opening game (earlier allotted for Bengaluru) and a semifinal, provided Pakistan fails to qualify for the last-four tie. If Pakistan makes the cut, it will play its semifinal in Colombo, its base for the entire tournament.

Navi Mumbai is assured of hosting the final if Pakistan does not make it to the title clash.

BCCI men's selection panel likely to see two changes

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India has invited applications for two slots in the men's senior selection committee, one in the junior selection panel and four in the women's senior selection panel. The deadline for eligible candidates to submit applications is September 10.

The BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia invited applications on Friday. Each national selection panel comprises five members, conventionally from each of the five major zones. The BCCI has not specified about the selection committee members who will retain their places.

The Hindu understands that S. Sharath, the former Tamil Nadu stalwart, will make way for a new face after serving four years in succession in junior and senior selection committees combined. It is understood that either Subroto Banerjee or Shiv Sunder Das, both former India players, will make way for a new face in the panel.

With Ajit Agarkar, who was appointed in July 2023, being assured of at least another year at the helm of affairs, the rejigged selection committee will continue to follow the roadmap towards the next year's T20 World Cup and the 2027 ODI World Cup. Agarkar's contract was renewed by BCCI apex council earlier in the quarter.

The BCCI's cricket advisory committee, with Ashok Malhotra as the chair and Sulakshana Naik and Jatin Paranjape as its members, is likely to interview shortlisted candidates before the BCCI annual general meeting ratifies the appointments at the end of September. It will be interesting to see if the junior selection panel will see a change of chief selector ahead of the next year's Under-19 World Cup.

While the women's selection panel is set for a major revamp with a majority of its members, including chief selector Neetu David, having served the maximum permissible limit of five years.

Ngidi. AFP

Breetzke and Ngidi sizzle as South Africa seals series

Agence France-Presse
MACKAY

Matthew Breetzke slammed a superb 88 and speedster Lungi Ngidi claimed five wickets as South Africa crushed Australia by 84 runs to win the second One-Day International and the series on Friday.

The Proteas won the opening game by 98 runs, making the third and final match on Sunday a dead rubber.

Australia has now lost the last five ODI series against South Africa.

"It's a great feeling, of course, never an easy feat coming to Australia and wrapping up the series in two games," said skipper Aiden Markram.

The scores: South Africa 277 in 49.1 overs (Breetzke 88, Stubbs 74, Zampa 3/63) bt Australia 193 in 37.4 overs (Green 35, Inglis 87, Ngidi 5/42).
Toss: South Africa. **PoM:** Ngidi.

INBRIEF

Nick Kyrgios withdraws from US Open

Nick Kyrgios withdrew from the US Open on Thursday, the third straight year the Australian has missed the last Grand Slam tournament of the season. Kyrgios has battled injuries in recent years and had missed most of the 2023 and 2024 seasons before trying to return this year. After undergoing wrist and knee surgeries, he came back to play in the Australian Open, but lost in the first round.

India eases past Bangladesh, registers second straight win

India blanked Bangladesh 2-0 to record its second straight win in the SAFF u-17 women's football in Thimpu on Friday. Pearl Fernandes (14th) and Bonifilia Shullai (76th) scored.

Priya claims silver and Suraj bronze in World u-20 wrestling

Priya Malik clinched the silver medal after being pinned by European World under-20 champion Nadiia Sokolovska in the women's 76kg final at the World under-20 wrestling in Samokov. In Greco-Roman, Suraj (60kg) beat Frenchman Lucas Lo Grasso and won bronze.

Monday's Hyderabad races cancelled; two races shifted

The Stewards of the Hyderabad Race Club have resolved to cancel the Monday's (Aug. 25) races, due to paucity of acceptors. However, B. Marideshwara Rao Memorial Cup and Northern Dancer Plate have been shifted from Aug. 25 to Aug. 24.

Satwik and Raashi win under-15 titles

M. Satwik and Raashi V. Rao emerged the boys' and girls' U-15 singles champions at state-ranking table tennis tournament in Hosapete.

The results (finals): Boys: U-15: M. Satwik bt Shriram Kiran 11-9, 16-14, 12-10. **U-13:** M. Siddhanth bt Arnav Mithun 7-11, 11-6, 11-5, 13-11. **Girls: U-15:** Raashi V. Rao bt Seeyana Maghie 11-9, 13-11, 11-8. **U-13**: Mihika Udupa bt Yuktha Harsha 11-8, 13-11, 11-5.

Karthikeya and Padikkal steer Tigers to easy win

The duo puts on 144 runs off just 89 balls to make light of a target of 173; Smaran comes good again for Mystics with an unbeaten 84; Blasters romp home against Lions

MAHARAJA TROPHY

C.K. Muralidharan
MYSURU

Hubli Tigers was well served by one-drop batsman K.P. Karthikeya (81 n.o, 48b, 8x4, 3x6) and skipper Devdutt Padikkal (69, 47b, 5x4, 3x6) as it registered a eight-wicket win over Gulbarga Mystics in the Maharaja Trophy on Friday.

Set a target of 173, Tigers knocked off the runs in 18.2 overs thanks to Karthikeya and Padikkal batting with ease to add 144 runs in just 89 balls for the second wicket.

Karthikeya impressed with his all-round strokes and took heavy toll of the Mystics bowlers along with Padikkal, who also played some exquisite shots.

Earlier, Mystics, put in to bat, scored 172 for seven in its 20 overs with R. Smaran playing a skipper's knock to remain unbeaten on 84 (48b, 6x4, 5x6).

Classy: Karthikeya delighted with an impressive knock. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The scores: Gulbarga Mystics 172/7 in 20 overs (R. Smaran 84 n.o., Yashraj Punja 2/25) lost to Hubli Tigers 173/2 in 18.2 overs (Devdutt Padikkal 69, K.P. Karthikeya 81 n.o.).
Toss: Tigers.
PoM: Karthikeya.

On Thursday: Shivamogga Lions 111/9 in 20 overs (M.G. Naveen 3/30, Madhav P. Bajaj 4/12) lost to Bengaluru Blasters 117/3 in 14.4 overs (Rohan Patil 74 n.o.).
Toss: Blasters.
PoM: Rohan.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Yuvraj has the last laugh

Yuvraj Sandhu prevailed over Udayan Mane in a marathon playoff that lasted five extra holes to win the ₹1 crore PGTI Players Championship 2025 at the Clover Greens Golf Course & Resort near Bengaluru, on Friday.
Both Yuvraj, the overnight leader by three shots, and Udayan, overnight second, ended the regulation 72 holes with identical totals of 28-under 256, necessitating the playoff.
Yuvraj's (63-67-61-65) victory over Mane (67-65-62-62) gave him his second title on the bounce after Mysuru last week.
Delhi's Kshitij Naveed Kaul (68-67-64-66) was third.

Reaping it rich: Yuvraj being presented with his reward.

Heena takes THEW honours

Heena Kang, who was four shots ahead with eight holes left, kept her nerve to par the last eight holes and win the 11th leg of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour at the Prestige Golfshire on Friday.
She was followed in the second spot by Lavanya Gupta and Ananya Garg.

Heena.

Kiran nets two in Kickstart's win

Kiran Pisda scored a brace as Kickstart FC defeated Kemp FC 4-2 in the Karnataka Women's League football on Friday.

The results:

Pass FC 2 (Tanvi Savarkar 35, Amrita Sharma 90) bt Maatru Pratishtana FC 0.

Kickstart FC 4 (Kajol D'Souza 8, Kiran Pisda 25, 88, Aarushi Santhosh 54) bt Kemp FC 2 (Rivka Ramji 34, Neha Mukati 90+2).

ISL impasse: SC asks FSDL, AIFF to work out interim arrangement

Soibam Rocky Singh
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday said that its judgment in the case concerning the constitution of the All India Football Federation (AIFF) is "ready", but deferred pronouncement to ensure that it was "in sync" with the recently enacted National Sports Bill.

"From our side, the judgment is ready. We just kept it to have a look at what will be the implication of the Act on it. We want it to be in-sync with it," a Bench of Justices P.S. Narasimha and Joymalya Bagchi observed, listing the matter for August 28.

The court also addressed concerns over the future of the ISL and the master rights agreement (MRA) between AIFF and Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL), whose contract runs until December this year.

The court directed FSDL to sit with AIFF and other stakeholders to work out an interim arrangement, while clarifying that player transfers could continue.

Gopal Sankaranarayanan, appointed as *amicus curiae* to assist the court in the case, submitted that competition under AIFF had come to a "complete standstill", and reminded the court that all commercial rights of AIFF were vested with FSDL until 2025. "FSDL has done it for 14 years, they have to finish and complete it, in the interest of the sport," the amicus noted, while adding that for one-and-a-half month, players have not been paid. "If it extends, FIFA will step in," he cautioned.

Neeraj Krishan Kaul, appearing for FSDL, flagged practical difficulties, pointing out that annual investments in ISL are around ₹150 crore and no investor would be willing to come in on a short-term basis.

The court urged FSDL to cooperate. "With the goodwill you have created over so many years.. We are very positive that we are opening a new chapter for the sports. Your contribution will be substantial, so you work on it, sit with them," noted the court.

Former India captain Baichung Bhutia's counsel raised concerns over unpaid players and regulatory uncertainty affecting transfers. The counsel highlighted that the global transfer windows had Aug. 31 (summer) and Jan. 31 (winter) as the deadline.

He contended that because of the "current regulatory freeze", no club is able to move players, and any delays beyond the transfer window could block clubs from preparing squads, affecting careers.

The court fixed August 28 for the next hearing.

BUCHI BABU SCORES - ROUND 2, DAY 1

Group-A: At Gojan-B: TNCA President's XI 384/9 in 90 overs (Pradosh Ranjan Paul 76, C. Andre Siddarth 111, B. Indrajith 104) vs Maharashtra. **Toss:** TNCA President's XI.

At SSN: Himachal Pradesh 144 in 57.2 overs (Varun Singh Bhuie 4/35) vs Chhattisgarh. **Toss:** HP.

Group-B: At TI-Murugappa: Baroda 176 in 68.4 overs (Sukirt Pandey 54, Vanshaj Sharma 6/65) vs J&K 48/1 in 19 overs. **Toss:** Baroda.

At SRMC, turf: Odisha 222 in 85.4 overs (Rajesh Dhupar 43, Raj Chaudhary 6/104) vs Railways 19/0 in 4 overs. **Toss:** Odisha.

Group-C: At Gojan-A: TNCA XI 414/8 in 90 overs (B. Sachin 74, Tushar Raheja 86, S.R. Athish 102, R. Sonu Yadav 46 n.o., Amit Rana 4/113) vs Haryana. **Toss:** TNCA XI.

At IITM-Chemplast: Mumbai 224/7 in 70 overs (Suved Parkar 47) vs Bengal. **Toss:** Mumbai.

Group-D: At MRF-Pachaiyappa's: Madhya Pradesh 213/8 in 86 overs (Rudransh Singh 63, Soham Patwardhan 93 batting) vs Punjab. **Toss:** MP.

At Guru Nanak: Jharkhand 218/7 in 68 overs (Kumar Kushagra 66 batting) vs Hyderabad. **Toss:** Jharkhand.